

#### 4 SLA militiamen hurt in clash

TEL AVIV (R) — Four militiamen of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) were wounded in clashes with commandos in the Israeli-declared security zone in southern Lebanon, security sources said. The men were injured when mortar fire hit an SLA position near Aiyshiyeh, north of the SLA stronghold of Marjayoun, the sources said. Fighting near Aiyshiyeh last Wednesday killed two Shi'ite militia guerrillas and one SLA militiaman. Elsewhere in the Marjayoun district, SLA forces Saturday intercepted guerrillas planting a roadside bomb near Taibe, the sources said, adding that the guerrillas withdrew when the SLA patrol arrived and there were no casualties on either side. United Nations peacekeeping forces in southern Lebanon have started a crash programme to fortify their positions since Shi'ite fighters last week overran a U.N. post, firing from the emplacement on nearby Israeli troops.

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#### Assad receives Lower House speaker

DAMASCUS (Petra) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad received here on Sunday the speaker of the Lower House of Parliament and president of the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU), Mr. Akel Al Foz, currently on a visit to Syria. Bilateral relations and Arab and regional issues were reviewed during the meeting which was presided by speaker of the Syrian People's Council Mahmoud Al Zu'bi. They also discussed the APU role in defending Arab interests. The meeting was attended by chairman of the Lower House Foreign Affairs Committee Rezaq Al Batayneh and chairman of the Lower House Committee for Occupied Territories Dawoud Sulaiman. Later Sunday Mr. Foz met with Syrian Prime Minister Abdul Ra'ouf Al Kasbi. They discussed bilateral relations and means of boosting them.

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#### Crown Prince visits army unit

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Sunday visited a unit of the Third Royal Armoured Division and watched a training exercise in which live ammunition was used. The Regent talked with officers and soldiers of the unit, expressing his admiration for the level of training attained by them.

#### Iraq denies attacking civilians in Iran

BAGHDAD (R) — A military spokesman Sunday denied Iranian reports that Iraqi planes attacked civilian areas of Azar-baidjan province in western Iran Saturday. The spokesman said the Iraqi Air Force went into action Saturday against Iranian troops in the Majnoon Islands area on the southern warfront and against Iranian military positions in the north. Iraq said Saturday it had recaptured several kilometres of territory in the Majnoon Islands area.

#### Sharaa arrives in Iran

NICOSIA, Syria (AP) — Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa, in a meeting Sunday in Tehran with his Iranian counterpart, renewed Damascus' support for Iran in the Gulf war against Iraq. Iran's official news agency reported. Mr. Sharaa arrived in Tehran on Sunday carrying a message from President Hafez Assad to his Iranian counterpart, Ali Khamenei, dealing with recent developments in the region and issues of mutual interest, Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

#### Israel, Soviets to discuss Mideast peace conference

TEL AVIV (R) — Foreign Minister Shimon Peres Sunday said Israel and the Soviet Union would be in contact next month over the issue of Soviet participation in a Middle East peace conference, armed forces radio reported. The radio said Peres told a weekly cabinet meeting that the contacts would focus on Israel's conditions for Soviet involvement in a U.N.-sponsored conference — the renewal of diplomatic relations severed by Moscow during the 1967 Middle East war and unlimited Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union. It gave no details on the framework for the contacts, but a Soviet delegation is due in Israel by early next month.

#### Iran detains oil tanker for inspection

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran said Sunday its gunboats intercepted and detained an unidentified oil tanker passing through the Strait of Hormuz, and searched three other ships but let them go after no Iraq-bound cargo was found on board. The interception was carried out Saturday at the Gulf's only outlet, said a war communiqué reported by Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Nicosia. The ships' ownership and the flags they were flying were not disclosed.

#### CBJ reports on 1986 economic performance

## GNP goes up as inflation drops to zero

AMMAN (Petra) — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Sunday released its annual report, giving details about its operations in 1986 and a general review of the economic, monetary and financial developments in Jordan during the past year.

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at current and real prices grew by 2.6 per cent in Jordan in the past year against 4.9 per cent in current and 1.9 in real prices in 1985, the report said.

It said that the Gross National Product (GNP) grew in 1986 by 3.7 per cent at current and real prices against a decline of 0.3 per cent in current and 3.2 per cent in real prices in the previous year.

The report attributed the improvement in the GNP growth rate to an increase in the activities of the industrial sector and such sectors as energy, water, finance and services, and due to an increase in money transfers by Jordanian expatriates, following

a drop in remittances in 1985.

The report said that the government exerted strenuous efforts during 1986 for stimulating the national economy by offering incentives for investments, supporting local industries and national exports and by curtailing imports and trying to attract investments from Arab and foreign countries.

Despite the positive aspects that resulted from such measures, the report said, Jordan continued to confront a host of negative elements which also affected the Arab region as a whole during 1986, owing to a retreat in Arab economic activity in general, a drop in oil prices in the first half

of 1986 and the continued fall in the exchange value of the U.S. dollar on world markets.

In addition, the Kingdom was adversely affected by a reduction in the volume of financial aid from Arab countries and a drop in the volume of national exports and also a gradual decrease in demand for Jordanian workers abroad, the report said.

The report noted that a drop in world inflation rates and the world economic recession played a part in maintaining prices in Jordan at a stable level and helped to reduce the inflation rate in the Kingdom from three per cent in 1985 to zero in 1986.

The report referred to Jordan's monetary policies and said that the CBJ maintained its stable policies designed to establish monetary stability, to ensure the convertibility of the dinar and to direct investments towards income-generating projects.

(Continued on page 3)

## Kuwait denies executing bombers

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait has denied reports that it secretly carried out death sentences in April on two Iraqis and a Lebanese convicted of involvement in bomb attacks against the French and American embassies in 1983.

An Interior Ministry official told the official Kuwait News Agency KUNA Saturday night that the reports were "absolutely

baseless allegations, sheer concoction and completely false."

The Iranian News Agency IRNA Saturday quoted the weekly organ of the Iraqi Majahideen opposition group as saying that Hussein Kassem Hassan, Baker Abdul Ridha and Lebanese Elias Fouad Saab had been executed.

A Kuwait security court convicted them and 17 others in March 1984 of complicity in the

embassy and other bombings against public establishments.

Three of the 17, all Iraqis, were also sentenced in their absence to public hanging and are thought to have fled the country.

Kuwait at the time blamed the blasts on the banned Iraqi Al Da'wa Al Islamiya Movement, which advocates an Iranian-style government in Iraq.

## Election date set for late deputy's seat

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai announced Sunday that August 15 will be the date for holding by-elections to fill the vacant seat of the late Saoud Al Qadi, the deputy for the northern Bedouin region. According to the new election law, by-elections will be held in the region between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on that day.

The Lower House and Upper House of Parliament held two separate meetings of their financial committees, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported. The Senate Committee, chaired by Speaker Ahmad Lawzi, discussed in its meeting an amended draft law controlling the operations of insurance companies in Jordan, a draft law on a loan agreement between the government and a Kuwaiti fund, and another on an oil concession agreement signed recently between the government's Natural Resources Authority (NRA) and Petrofina, a Belgian oil exploration company. The three laws had been passed last week by the House and are

awaiting an endorsement by the Senate.

The Senate committee meeting was attended by Parliamentary Affairs Minister Sami Joudeh and Industry and Trade Minister Rajai Muasher. Petra did not report whether the Senate financial committee had decided to recommend the endorsement of the three laws.

The House Financial Committee meeting, chaired by Deputy Speaker Musa Abu Al Ragheb, discussed an audit bureau draft law. Petra did not report details of the discussion.

In Ramtha, the committee established to reconsider voters' list in the governorate held a meeting headed by Governor Khalaf Mahasneh Sunday during which they approved the final voters' list after considering all objections. There were 16,621 voters on the final lists. The list will be displayed for ten days in municipal and rural councils in the governorates.

## Senator sees no grounds for impeaching Reagan

WASHINGTON (R) — The chairman of the Senate panel investigating the Iran arms scandal said Sunday he saw no grounds so far for impeaching President Reagan.

"I don't think it would end up with the impeachment of the president," Senator Daniel Inouye said on U.S. television. "I haven't seen anything as far as I'm concerned that would be sufficient grounds to impeach the president of the United States," he said.

Sen. Inouye made the comment when asked if he thought the investigation could lead to the impeachment of Mr. Reagan, who has been faced with the worst crisis of his presidency as a result of the secret arms sales to Iran and diversion of funds to Nicaraguan contra rebels.

But he added that he believed Mr. Reagan knew more about the Iran arms operation than he has admitted publicly.

"On one of your earlier programmes, I suggested to the chairman of many that the president wasn't absolutely honest when he

said 'I didn't know' because I felt after reading the documents that he knew much more than he says he knows," the senator said.

Sen. Inouye also said marine Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North, the fired White House security aide who was a key figure in the scandal and whose testimony last week won him unexpectedly strong public sympathy, "wasn't absolutely candid."

"I think for the most part, especially on the larger issues, he was rather candid, at times rather explosively candid," Sen. Inouye said. "... but there are a few minor points that must be followed up ... that we can't understand."

He declined to specify what the points were.

Also appearing on the programme was Senator Warren Rudman, Republican co-chairman of the panel, who said that while much of the testimony appeared to implicate the late Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Casey, he believed the blame would be found to be more widespread.

## Syria tops agenda of today's EC meeting

COPENHAGEN (R) — Relations with Syria will top the agenda when European Community (EC) foreign ministers meet in Copenhagen Monday for a day of talks on foreign policy cooperation, community officials said Sunday.

The EC banned high-level diplomatic contacts as part of sanctions imposed on Syria in 1986 for its alleged role in an alleged plot to blow up an Israeli airliner in London.

But several West European governments feel the ban is hindering attempts to break the deadlock in Middle East peace efforts.

Syria is seen as a key factor in the peace equation and as a possible mediator in securing the release of Western hostages held in Lebanon.

The difficulties were highlighted last spring when Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans visited several Middle East countries as president of the EC's council of ministers but was forced to exclude Syria.

Britain originally asked for the ban, but made clear at a European summit in Brussels last month that it would not stand in the way of community partners who wished to resume contacts.

But British officials said London would not renew its own diplomatic relations with Damascus.

East-West relations will also feature in Monday's talks between the foreign ministers. They can expect a report from West German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher on his recent visit to Moscow with President Richard von Weizsaecker.

On the Gulf war, and the growing threat it presents to world shipping in the region, Britain and France will report to the EC foreign ministers on a recent United Nations Security Council resolution calling for a ceasefire between Iraq and Iran.

But officials said there was unlikely to be a European initiative over the Gulf, as EC governments were happy to let the United Nations take the lead.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, receives Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi in Amman Sunday. Also present is Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri (Petra photo)

## Regent, Klibi discuss inter-Arab ties, developments in Middle East

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Sunday conferred with Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi who arrived in Amman Saturday for discussions in inter-Arab relations and developments in the Middle East.

During the meeting, Prince Hassan and Mr. Klibi reviewed the situation in the Arab World and in the international arena. They discussed means of unifying Arab ranks, the current efforts for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Iran-Iraq war, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Petra said Prince Hassan discussed with Mr. Klibi coordination between the Arab League and Jordan in cultural and scientific fields.

Mr. Klibi earlier met with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai in the presence of Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and reviewed with him developments on the Arab scene.

They discussed in particular the work of the seven-member Arab committee which has been entrusted with holding contacts with various governments in a bid to end the Gulf conflict.

Mr. Klibi paid tribute to His Majesty King Hussein's efforts to bring an end to the Gulf war and in seeking Arab solidarity. He also praised the King's efforts in seeking an international Middle East peace conference.

Mr. Masri and Mr. Klibi, who met earlier Sunday, stressed the importance of joint Arab action and called for support for specialised Arab agencies that can contribute to serving Arab interests.

According to Petra, Mr. Masri and Mr. Klibi also discussed current efforts on the Arab and international levels to bring an end to the Gulf conflict.

Mr. Masri, who is one of the seven members in the Arab committee, briefed the Arab League secretary general on the committee's recent talks with British leaders in London on means of ending the Gulf conflict.

Later Sunday, Mr. Klibi left for Kuwait. He is also expected to visit Saudi Arabia where he will hold talks on holding an Arab summit conference.

Mr. Klibi arrived in Kuwait on Sunday night to confer with Kuwaiti leaders on ways to end the Iran-Iraq war, Reuters news

agency reported. The Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) quoted him as saying he would discuss "efforts under way and efforts that may be taken in the future to speed an end to the war and reach an honourable peace guaranteeing the legitimate rights of the Iraqi and Iranian people."

He said the 21-member league stood by Kuwait "in the delicate circumstances which the Gulf region is passing through."

Kuwait has been assailed by Iran for supporting Iraq in the conflict and shipping associated with the northern Gulf emirate has been singled out for Iranian attack in recent months.

Arab foreign ministers passed a resolution on the war last year condemning the occupation of Arab land, a reference to Iranian occupation of parts of Iraq. But effective action has been hampered by divisions between Arab states.

The Iranian News Agency IRNA said Sunday Syria's Foreign Minister Farouk Al-Shara reiterated his country's support for Iran during a visit to Tehran Sunday.

## PSD seizes JD 250,000 worth of drugs in 4 smuggling operations

AMMAN (Petra) — A quarter tonne of hashish and an unspecified amount of heroin with a street value estimated at JD 250,000, from four different smuggling operations, have been seized by the Public Security Department (PSD). Most of those involved in the trafficking operations were arrested.

The head of PSD's Anti-narcotics Division, Colonel Hashem Al Qaisi, said Sunday that 26 of 32 persons believed to be involved in the drug trafficking operations have been apprehended. He said that those involved are of Jordanian, Lebanese, Syrian and Egyptian nationalities.

"Early this year, we learnt about a group of drug traffickers smuggling drugs from Lebanon to the Arabian peninsula through Jordanian territory. The police

placed the group under strict surveillance," Col. Qaisi said.

He said one of the trucks with a Kuwaiti number plate was impounded. A subsequent search showed that 206 kilograms of hashish were hidden inside its compartments. A total of 16 persons involved in the smuggling of that amount were apprehended, he said.

According to Col. Qaisi, the group members were found to have taken part in previous drug trafficking operations and had succeeded in smuggling 212 captagon pills in addition to 65 kilograms of hashish into Saudi Arabia and 115 kilograms of hashish into Qatar.

In another case, police apprehended a group of drug traffickers who were smuggling

heroin from Pakistan to West Germany and other European nations through Jordanian territory.

In a third case, police arrested a group smuggling heroin from Lebanon to Jordan. In a fourth case, a group of smugglers were caught trying to smuggle 32 kilograms of hashish to Saudi Arabia, according to Col. Qaisi who did not give specific dates for the arrests.

On May 9, Col. Qaisi announced that the anti-narcotics squad seized 310 kilograms of hashish and an unspecified amount of heroin and other drugs with a street value of JD 30,000. He said 43 persons involved in the drug smuggling operation have been arrested including 24 who were non-Jordanians.

## White South African delegation, ANC call for negotiated settlement

DAKAR, Senegal (AP) — Liberal white South Africans and the banned African National Congress issued a joint communique Sunday supporting a negotiated settlement of South Africa's problems and calling for the release of all political prisoners.

The communique, released at the end of the three-day meeting in Dakar, said the participants "unanimously expressed preference for a negotiated solution" but "recognised that the attitude of those in power is the principal obstacle to progress."

"It was further accepted that the unconditional release of all political leaders in prison or detention and the unbanning of organisations are fundamental prerequisites for such negotiations to take place," the communique said.

Frederik Van Zyl Slabbert,

former leader of the South African opposition Progressive Federal Party, read the joint communique to reporters.

Pretoria has refused to talk with the ANC unless it renounces its support for armed struggle. The ANC and other anti-apartheid movements within South Africa say there can be no negotiations without the unbanning of the ANC and the release of its leader, Nelson Mandela, who was jailed in 1964.

Mr. Slabbert led a mostly Afrikaner delegation of 51 white South Africans — a cross-section of politicians, businessmen, farmers, artists and sports figures — to the largest meeting ever between liberal whites and the radical black guerrilla movement.

Mr. Slabbert said he hoped a wider cross-section of South Africans would be involved in future

meetings with the ANC "to dispel the misunderstanding and fear and to reinforce the broad democratic movement."

"Our intention is to meet again. We have a much clearer idea of the situation. Our country is riddled with disinformation," he said.

Right-wing Afrikaner groups and South Africa's government-controlled media have denounced the Dakar meetings as treasonous and called on President P.W. Botha to punish the participants.

Mr. Slabbert said he was willing to meet with the extreme right-wing Afrikaner Resistance Movement to discuss the purpose and results of the conference.

ANC leaders said they believed the liberal South Africans would work actively to support the anti-apartheid movement.

## Rifai leaves to join King in London

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Sunday left for a brief visit to Britain, to join His Majesty King Hussein in the talks which the King will hold Monday in London with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

The talks will centre on the latest developments in the Middle East as well as bilateral relations.

Mr. Rifai was seen off at the airport by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali and a number of ministers.

The King and Her Majesty Queen Noor arrived in Britain on Friday for a private visit during which the King patronised the graduation ceremony at a British Royal Air Force (RAF) school at Valley, Wales.

The King, who was the chief guest at the graduation ceremony, presented His Royal Highness Prince Faisal, who was one of the graduates, with five trophies along with his wings.

## Envoy: U.K. ready to reflag Kuwaiti tankers

KUWAIT (AP) — British Ambassador Peter Hinchcliffe said Sunday his country is ready to reflag Kuwaiti tankers if requested by the government of Kuwait, the Al Anbaa newspaper reported.

"So far, we did not receive any official request by the Kuwaiti government in this respect," London's ambassador to Kuwait said in an interview with Al Anbaa.

"We in Britain say that any Kuwaiti application to reflag Kuwaiti tankers will be considered, taking into account the strong friendly relations binding Kuwait and Britain," he told the paper.

"I personally feel there would be no problem in responding to Kuwait's request... it depends on the Kuwaiti government," he said.

Kuwait was a British protectorate until 1961, when the Arab Gulf nation became a full sovereign state.

The ambassador's remarks ran counter to earlier public statements made by Kuwaiti officials. Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah told Western reporters two weeks ago that Kuwait approached the five permanent U.N. Security Council members, including Britain and France, to reflag Kuwaiti tankers to help move its oil exports through the Gulf in face of Iranian attacks.

Sheikh Ali said Britain did not turn down the Kuwaiti request. "The United States is reflagging 11 of the 21-unit Kuwaiti tanker fleet and the Soviet Union has leased three tankers to Kuwait. These tankers would be entitled to protection by American and Soviet warships that patrol the Gulf waters. Britain also has a 3-unit armilla fleet that patrols the waterway."

Mr. Hinchcliffe disclosed that there were three tankers registered in Gibraltar which carry Kuwaiti crude. "They are tantamount to Britain-reflagged tankers," he added, without specifying whether they were Kuwaiti tankers registered in Gibraltar.

He also expressed Britain's preparedness to supply Kuwait with all its needs to weaponry. "We supplied Kuwait with eight Hawk training aircraft a year ago and 150 Chieftain tanks several years ago," he said.

The Kuwait government moved to protect its oil shipping lanes after Iran focused on Kuwait-related vessels for ship attacks in retaliation for Iraqi raids on Iranian oil tankers. Iraq and Iran have been at war since September 1980. Tehran accuses Kuwait of aiding the Iraqi war effort.

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Grapes	350 / 300	Radishes	100 / 60
Lemon	370 / 320	Vine leaves	370 / 320
		Watermelon	80 / 50



## Scout movement develops responsible youth — Dahiyat

AMMAN (Petra) — The second national conference of scout movement and girlguides in Jordan began Sunday at the Royal Cultural Centre under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, with the participation of some 215 scout leaders and girlguides in the country.

Addressing the conference, Minister of Youth Eid Dahiyat, deputising for the Crown Prince, said that the scouts and girlguides movement is a major social and educational institution which aims at preparing a responsible and self-reliant generation.

The conference, Dr. Dahiyat added, is a good opportunity for

scout leaders and girlguides to study ways of developing and improving the standard of the scout movement in order to spread this movement among the youth, and of unifying the scouting movement.

Dr. Dahiyat also called on the scout movement to utilise the potential of youth to contribute to community development.

Participants in the three-day conference are discussing working papers on the present conditions of the scouts movement, on means to deal with its problems, on training programmes, on local community development, and on the principles of the Great Arab Revolt.



Minister of Youth Eid Dahiyat, deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, attends the second national conference of the scout movement and girlguides held at the Royal Cultural Centre on Sunday.

Later, Dr. Dahiyat addressed the conference, stressing the need to encourage responsible and self-reliant young people in the Kingdom (Petra photo).

## Panel examines ways to lessen earthquake damage

AMMAN (J.T.) — A five-day symposium on reducing the effects of earthquakes in Jordan resumed Sunday with lectures on the earthquake zones in Jordan.

Lecturers, from many countries including Jordan, also outlined means of designing earthquake-resistant structures, bridges and dams.

The symposium, which opened Saturday, has been organised by the Ministry of Planning in cooperation with the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

Attending the meetings are engineers, technicians and personnel from the Ministries of Planning, Energy and Mineral Resources, Public Works, Municipal and Rural Affairs, the Natural Resources Authority, the Royal

Scientific Society (RSS), Jordanian universities, the Greater Amman Municipality and the Civil Defence Department.

Addressing the opening session Saturday was RSS President Jawad Al Anani who reviewed Jordan's efforts in gathering information about earthquakes and reviewed the history of earthquakes in the Middle East.

In 1985, Jordan signed an agreement with the Kuwaiti based Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development to obtain a 450,000 Kuwaiti dinar loan for a project designed to minimise the effects of earthquakes in the Kingdom, Dr. Anani said.

The project purchased equipment for a national seismological network and financed training programmes in seismological fields, he said.

## Greek minister leaves on positive note

AMMAN (Petra) — Greek Minister of Transport Constantine Badouvas ended his three-day visit to Jordan and left for home Sunday evening, describing his talks here as positive.

The Greek minister, who held talks with a number of Jordanian ministers and senior officials, paid tribute to Jordanian-Greek relations.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Badouvas met with Minister of Communication Mubieddine Al Hussein and reviewed Jordanian-Greek cooperation in communications.

The Greek minister said his country hoped to expand technical cooperation between the two countries and added that his visit to Jordan at the head of an official delegation allowed him to inspect Jordan's achievements in transport and communications.

The meeting was attended by Minister of Transport Ahmad Dakhan with whom the Greek minister held talks on transport cooperation between Greece and Jordan.

The Greek minister later made a statement to the Jordan News

Agency, Petra, in which he paid tribute to efforts by His Majesty King Hussein for his endeavours to bring peace to the Middle East.

He said that Greek-Jordanian relations are witnessing a new stage of cooperation in cultural and economic fields.

The Greek minister and his delegation also toured archaeological and tourist sites in Madaba and were briefed on their historical background by Mr. Nasri Atallah, director general of Tourism Authority.

## Black Forest band serves slice of Germany

By Peter Baratta  
Special to the Jordan Times

JERASH — From a small village nestled in West Germany's Black Forest comes one of the most tradition-stepped groups to perform at this year's Jerash Festival.

Sporting festive costumes and performing folkloric dances to the sounds of brass horns and drums, the 53-member Musical Association of Bernau are scheduled to play at the Forum tonight, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

The history of most musical associations in Germany date back to the post-1848 revolution period, when people wanted to assemble into social, non-political organisations, of which musical groups were among the most popular, said Mrs. Carola Mueller-Holtkemper, press and culture secretary at the West German embassy.

Mrs. Mueller-Holtkemper said it is common for each town and village in West Germany to have at least one musical group that meets regularly to practice and socialise together. "This is part of the community life," she said.

The groups, whose costumes and performances differ in each



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region of the country, usually perform during local festivities, including Autumn harvest celebrations, she said.

One of the most famous and colourful folkloric groups in Baden-Wuerttemberg region of the south, the Bernau association was invited to this year's Jerash Festival at the request of the West German ambassador, who visits Bernau whenever he travels to his home country, Mrs. Mueller-Holtkemper said.

Following their shows at the Jerash Festival, the group, which in addition to the 53 performers includes the mayor of Bernau, will travel to the West Bank for performances in Ramallah and Bethlehem, Mrs. Mueller-Holtkemper said.

## Prince Faisal's graduation

His Royal Highness Prince Faisal took the lion's share of awards during his graduation from Number 4 Flying Training School of the Royal Air Force (RAF) in Valley, Wales.

In addition to receiving his pilot's wings, the precocious Prince was awarded five of the seven trophies presented by the school to the graduating class. He received trophies for best leadership qualities, best flying ability, best ground school student, and two for best overall ability.

His Majesty King Hussein presented Prince Faisal with the trophies and with his pilot's wings at the graduation held Friday.

As the chief guest, the King gave a speech praising the flying school's work and wishing the graduates, including his son, all success in their future careers (Petra photos).



## Expatriates' congress opens today with full agenda

AMMAN (J.T.) — The third Jordanian Expatriates' Congress opens at the Palace of Culture of Al Hussein Youth City today under the royal patronage.

Nearly 650 expatriates representing Jordanian citizens working and living in 20 Arab and foreign states are expected to attend the four-day congress.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Development, which is sponsoring the meetings, has almost completed the process of registering participants, and has put the finishing touches on working papers that will be submitted to the congress, according to Dr. Saleh Khasawneh, under secretary of the ministry, who also heads the congress's technical committee.

On the eve of the meetings, Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan said that the congress is designed to strengthen ties between the expatriates and the Jordanian government.

The congress will allow the expatriates to learn more about the economic and social situation in Jordan and to air their views about living conditions abroad.

The congress will provide with information about the labour market in Jordan and opportunity for investment, specially in development projects, the minister said.

The minister said that participants will review recommendations and resolutions passed by

the second expatriates congress held in Amman last summer.

According to Mr. Haj Hassan, his ministry has prepared working paper on political affairs which will outline the Kingdom's basic strategy toward Arab issues, including bringing an end to the Iran-Iraq war and finding a solution for the Arab-Israeli conflict through an international Middle East peace conference. The ministry has also prepared a working paper on the conditions of Arab inhabitants under Israeli rule and Jordan's role in supporting their steadfastness in the face of Israel's inhuman practices and designs. The paper highlights Israel's policies aimed at destroying the economic infrastructure of the Arab areas under its rule. Mr. Haj Hassan added.

Another paper, he said, expounds the economic situation in Jordan and the Kingdom's economic future, including the opportunities for investment and the status of the labour market.

The conference aims at orienting the participants about Jordan's general development and achievements realised through the cooperation of various sectors. The participants will be taken on a tour of a number of industrial centres and businesses in the country, the minister said.

In implementation of resolutions passed by the first two expatriates congresses, the government is offering expatriates more opportunities to take part in the country's development, the minister said. He said that the government has provided incentives for investors in the current 1986-1990 five-year national development plan. It has taken measures to provide housing and higher education for expatriates and their children, implemented recommendations concerning dual nationality and social security services for the expatriates.

The government has increased the time which children of expatriates can postpone military service, from one to two years, Mr. Haj Hassan noted. He said that the government has exempted expatriates from paying duty on their belongings if they return to settle in Jordan, and has also taken measures to sell expatriates housing units at Abu Nusair housing estate.

The Council of Higher Education has decided to accept expatriate students at various universities and the Ministry of Interior has decided to offer the expatriates the right to take part in the general elections.

According to Dr. Khasawneh, the third congress is expected to witness the creation of a holding company created by expatriates in implementation of a recommendation passed at the 1986 congress.

## Housing Bank's loans total JD 625m

AMMAN (Petra) — The Housing Bank has granted 35,000 loans totalling JD 625 million to Jordanian individuals and organisations for housing purposes since its establishment 13 years ago, according to a bank spokesman.

He said that the Housing Bank gave loans for the construction of 62,000 housing units.

The spokesman, who was giving details about the bank's operations in an interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the Housing Bank financed part of the projects executed by the

Urban Development Department by providing JD 17.3 million and offered JD 12 million soft loans to cooperative societies involved in housing operations for limited-income families.

The Housing Bank has been instrumental in helping the Housing Corporation carry out its projects. It has provided the corporation with JD 67.5 million to help it build a total of 115 housing units in the Kingdom, the spokesman noted.

In addition, he said, the Housing Bank has acquired JD 17.5 million worth of shares in finan-

cial companies to contribute to the development of the Kingdom.

Apart from giving loans, the Housing Bank continues to offer services in the form of handling bills for telephone, water and electricity charges and has been operating a mobile bank that tours remote regions to offer its services to inhabitants of Badia and rural regions of the Kingdom, the spokesman added.

He said that the Housing Bank has been in contact with Jordanian expatriates in Arab states with the purpose of handling their savings and their investments in the country.

## Report: GNP goes up by 3.7% in 1986

(Continued from page 1)

To achieve this objective the CBJ last year reduced the ceiling of interest paid by local banks on savings deposits and credit with a view to encouraging direct investments in the country, the report said.

It said that the CBJ also limited credit facilities for importing products from other countries, and at the same time revised deposits paid as insurance on importing primary and raw materials and basic food supplies.

Referring to the work of money changers, the report said that the CBJ issued measures designed to control their operations and to encourage money changing businesses and firms to increase their capital.

As a result of these measures, the report noted, the monetary situation improved noticeably in Jordan and the rate of liquidity rose to 10.5 per cent as compared to 6.7 per cent in 1985, and money circulation rose 5.8 per cent in 1986 as compared to a reduction of 3.4 per cent in the previous year.

The report said that general revenues rose from JD 834.6 million in 1985 to JD 850.6 million in 1986 and public expenditure rose from JD 812.8 million to JD 1002.6 million in the same period.

As for exports the report said that national exports registered JD 225.6 million in 1986 compared to JD 255.3 million in the previous year and attributed the drop to the sharp decrease in the exchange rate of the U.S. dollar,

and the drop in the volume of exported goods. It said that the imports in 1986 also registered a drop, totalling JD 850.2 million against JD 1074.4 million in 1985.

The CBJ report said that in 1986 the national balance of payment showed a surplus of JD 35 million as a result of a big increase in Jordan's foreign currency reserves which rose from JD 781.4 million in 1985 to JD 821.9 million in 1986.

The report pointed to Jordan's role during 1986 in following a course, leading to joint Arab economic action. It said that efforts continued throughout the year for enhancing economic cooperation with the Arab World in general and bolstering economic and trade links with different Arab states in particular.

STATE OF KUWAIT



دولة الكويت

## EMPLOYMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

اعلانات توظيف

The State of Kuwait, Ministry of Public Works is offering a number of positions to highly qualified architects, engineers and other professionals. Candidates will be required to meet, as a minimum, the requirements listed below. Command of the English language, both written and verbal, is mandatory; previous Middle East experience is preferable.

### ARCHITECTURAL AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL CANDIDATES

Candidates should have a minimum of a Bachelor's degree, Masters preferable, together with current professional registration and a minimum of 15 years experience, in one of the following disciplines:

**Architecture:** public/private projects involving the design and construction of hospitals, schools, commercial and public buildings.

**Landscape Architecture:** All phases of landscape design, development and construction supervision of various projects.

**Landscape Irrigation:** All phases of design, development and construction supervision. In depth knowledge of pumping facilities and reservoirs required.

**Urban Planning:** Urban design and site master planning; master planning of new town development including coordination of public utilities and services.

### ENGINEERING CANDIDATES

Candidates should have a minimum of a Bachelor of Science degree, Masters preferable, together with current professional registration and a minimum of 15 years experience, in one of the following disciplines:

**Traffic Engineering:** Expertise in transportation planning, traffic analysis, signalization, the design of major parking structures.

**Highway Design:** All phases of motorway and limited access highway design and specification preparation.

**Highway Construction:** Supervision of motorways and limited access highways, in both urban and open locations.

**Highway Maintenance:** Highway engineer experienced in developing work programs and budgets for maintenance of highways and bridges.

**Bridge Engineering:** The design, construction and maintenance of reinforced concrete and steel bridge structures with a background in corrosion control.

**Electrical Engineering:** Experienced in all aspects of the design, costing and construction of lighting and power supply systems for use in major public building projects.

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**ditioning (HVAC):** All aspects of the design, costing and construction of systems for use in major public building projects in arid regions.

**Scheduling:** Experienced in construction management with (CPM) background. Familiarity with micro computer based software programs for example Artemis, Primavera, etc. Knowledge of cost control methods, scheduling and report Generation.

**Quantity Surveying:** Familiarity with the element method, Uniformat and the square meter method of estimating; the 16 divisional Master-format specification method; preparation of bills of Quantities, material take off method and budgeting procedures. Experience in the use of micro computers preferable. Professional certificate or member of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors is mandatory.

### PROFESSIONAL SPECIALISTS

Candidates should have a minimum of a Bachelor of Science or Arts degree, in addition to exper-

ience in one of the following disciplines:

**Claims Specialist:** All technical, administrative and legal experience necessary for the analysis and settlement of consultant's and contractors' claims, including experience of international arbitration.

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**Computer programmer:** 8 years experience in programming. Working knowledge of the above mentioned computer languages/systems.

**Horticulture:** 12 years experience in ornamental Horticulture. Knowledge of arid, semi arid and tropical plant propagation and maintenance. In-depth knowledge of soil, water, disease control and nutrient requirements.

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Interested candidates are invited to submit their resumes, copies of university degrees and a summary of completed projects. They should also indicate their expected salary and when they would be available to commence work. Selected candidates will be required to submit within three months of employment certified copies of University degrees, and letters from former employers. Failure to comply with the aforementioned requirements will render all offers null and void.

Applications must be sent to Kuwait Embassy - Jabel Amman - Forth Circle before Thursday 30-7-1987.

وزارة العمل في دولة الكويت



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Established 1975

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## A stab in the back

AFTER seven months of clinging to the fifth amendment of the U.S. constitution privilege against self-incrimination and refusing to disclose the inner secrets of the Iran-contra affair, Marine Lieutenant Oliver North finally spilled the beans and spelled out some startling revelations after securing limited immunity from the U.S. congressional investigative committees. What Col. North has unfolded before the congressional committees has confirmed what has been suggested by others, namely, Israel and Israeli agents were the pivotal actors in the whole Iran-contra affair. In the process, Israel disregarded and damaged U.S. interests, compromised its integrity and credibility among the Arab countries and allowed Israel to reap maximum benefit from everyone involved. A key figure in the arms deals, Manucher Ghorbanifar, turned out to be an Israeli agent wearing the cloak of an Iranian businessman. With Amir Nir, the counterterrorism adviser to the then prime minister of Israel, Shimon Peres, Mr. Ghorbanifar conspired and conspired to persuade the U.S. intelligence network and the U.S. National Security Council to sell arms to Iran; first, under the pretext of securing the release of U.S. hostages and the cultivation of relations with moderate elements in Iran, then, in a last ditch inducement, as a way to fund the contra rebels in Nicaragua by diverting money from the arms sales.

There is no doubt in our minds that the Israeli national interests were always served by supplying the Iranian war machine to fuel the Gulf war and create a permanent wedge between Iran and the Arab World. And as long as the Gulf war continues, Arab blood and resources will continue to be wasted. That is exactly what Israel was and is aiming at. That is why it enticed Col. North, and the entire U.S. administration, in its web and exploited their zealous lust for covert operations to serve Israeli interests.

However, this does not exonerate the U.S. administration from its responsibility. The Reagan administration allowed itself to be dragged into the scheme fully aware of its potentially grave consequences to the Arab World. But, officials in Washington were blinded by their obsession of containing "the Soviet threat," leading them to completely disregard the interests of Arab friends and allies. This blatant disregard for Arab concerns is both shocking and unacceptable.

The whole affair has cast serious doubts on the U.S. administration's ability and readiness to assume its potential role as a mediator in the region's conflict, especially in efforts to bring about a peaceful settlement for the Palestinian question. For how can we believe that the U.S. is serious about peace when it has been so willing to join hands with Israel on so many occasions, this being the latest and most blatant. Arab leaders, including some of America's best allies, have repeatedly said that the U.S. administration was losing its credibility in the region. This warning, however, has evidently fallen on deaf ears in Washington. The dangerous implications of the latest revelations are that the U.S. has lost its credibility not only as an honest broker in the region but also as a trusted ally to friendly Arab states. From our perspective, the Iran-contra affair was, and is, a stab in the back.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Ra'i: Hoping for a miracle

WE follow with great interest and hope a tour by Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi in Arab states and his talks with government leaders designed to bring about solidarity among Arab countries. The talks aim at ending the Gulf war and also at convening an Arab summit meeting that has been postponed for so many times and for so long. It is clear that these issues are placed at the top of a list of priorities for Arab countries, and therefore achieving a headway in their direction is necessary for the Arabs who together face common threats. It should be emphasized that the time factor is important here, and the national responsibility makes it incumbent upon Arab leaders to take speedy and joint action for the sake of safeguarding their nation's interests. They should take the initiative now if they are concerned over regaining their usurped lands and rights, and building genuine peace in the Middle East. Klibi's current mission deserves all support and backing by all Arab states; and if it proves successful, that will be an indicator that Arab leaderships have finally realized the importance of the time factor that they should work faster for their present and their future. No one doubts that the Arab countries possess vast potentials which they can use in the defence of their nation; but this hinges on the condition of joining hands and working in complete solidarity. Klibi's mission does not require a miracle for achieving success, but it rather calls for genuine and serious efforts that can bring about joint Arab military, economic and political action, capable of regaining lost Arab lands.

#### Al Dustour: Lebanon's bitter harvest

PERHAPS one of the ugliest and most devastating consequences of the Lebanese civil war is the continuous aggravation of the economic situation in the country. The cost of living and the basic essential things for life are far above the income of hundreds of thousands of ordinary people in Lebanon in view of the continuing down fall of the Lebanese pound. Lebanon is now at the mercy of foreign markets from which it imports nearly 80 per cent of its needs, and the collapse of the national currency makes the situation for that country look like a total disaster. The ordinary citizens of Lebanon who have suffered for so long from the civil war are now confronting an economic catastrophe and facing the spiralling cost of living with real despair. In fact, the tragedy the Lebanese people are living through at the moment should serve as a common denominator for unifying all factions and parties in the face of the common danger. But it is rather unlikely that the leaders of the various warring groups in Lebanon will benefit from this lesson, but will go on bringing in one disaster after another to their countrymen and their nation. It is only in the interest of those who are exploiting the Lebanese tragedy that the situation should continue and the Lebanese people should be left rotting in the dark tunnel.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: Iraq's sound strategy pays

IRAQ's success in liberating parts of Majnoon islands after three years of Iranian occupation opens up wide prospects for Iraq to liberate other parts of Iraqi territory that have fallen into the hands of the Iranian enemy. The success of the Iraqis in this endeavour proves the sound strategy of the Iraqi leadership and its handling of the Gulf conflict. Not it will not be late for the Iraqis to free the Fao island which is in the hands of the Iranian forces. Majnoon islands fell to the Iraqis in March 1984, but the Iraqis chose to wait and to move in the right time and place to liberate these lands. This Iraqi victory is cause for our great joy and it is a moment for the Arabs to reflect upon this success and aspire for more successes and a final victory which would soon witness an end to the Gulf conflict that has been raging for nearly seven years. The Iraqis rejoiced in 1984 upon occupying Majnoon islands, but this victory and the liberation of these islands is sufficient proof that the Iranian regime is slowly and gradually approaching the end of their adventure and paying the price for their intransigence and persistence in continuing a losing war.

## In search for peace: Israelis need consensus, Arabs alternatives

By Dr. Waleed Sadi

THE clear message that I have received during my recent visit to Jerusalem and the West Bank was that the Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres is way out on the limb in his highly personalised approach to the principle of convening an international peace conference on the Palestinian conflict. In passionately holding the torch for such a conference and making negotiation with the Arab parties under the U.N. auspices his personal crusade within and without Israel, Mr. Peres's style and motivation have become a suspect in the eyes of the Israeli beholders. There are even whispers in the corridors of Israeli politics that political and personal frictions are brewing between Mr. Peres and his closest supporters including Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin over his alleged manipulation of events and personalities ostensibly to redeem the conference idea when in fact, so his new foes maintain, his primary goal and aspiration is to cling to power. Of course, there are no sure ways to determine the accuracy of such charges levelled against Mr. Peres by even the key members of the Labour Party over which he is the incumbent leader. Yet recent news reports emanating from Israel corroborate my reading of the political scene in Israel. These reports speak of Mr. Peres's declining popularity in Israel and question his ability to hold on to the post of the leader of the Labour Party, much longer. His failure to force national elections on the issue of the Middle East peace conference is often cited as proof of his fading popularity. Other news reports suggest that time for the peace conference is fast running out and that unless Mr. Peres can ignite wider interest in the conference idea among the Israelis, the idea will remain in limbo until after the U.S. and Israeli elections in 1988. This is not to mention Mr. Peres's problems and confrontations with Mr. Shamir, the Israeli prime minister and leader of the Likud.

If in fact Mr. Peres is losing much of his clout within his Labour Party and within the Israeli electorate at large, the implications of

such development on the idea of holding a conference on the Palestinian conflict is too clear to ignore. There is no denying that if Mr. Peres's political fortunes crash-land in Israel, so could be the fate of the projected conference. We cannot expect much support to the conference principle from the Likud whose incumbent leader just reiterated as recently as July 5 of this year that the "proposal (to convene such a conference) is non-existent as far as the Israeli government is concerned." How much tears would the Israeli people shed should the conference idea become stillborn has thus become a legitimate concern. What then is the fate of the peace process and its current vehicle, i.e., the international conference idea, is uppermost question on the minds of the Arab side.

Throughout my visit days and nights across the River Jordan I detected and deduced that there is now a leadership crisis in Israel which could emerge to become the principal obstacle to the on-going process of peace. The consensus among knowledgeable observers on the other side of the fence is that Israel lacks now a leader who enjoys the stature and charisma to lead his people to peace. At the present, I was often told, there is no Israeli leader who can "deliver" on any of the current Israeli offers of peace with the Arab parties. Meanwhile potential leaders of the Likud like Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon are still suggesting that "facts should be created" in the West Bank to deliberately counter and frustrate efforts by Mr. Peres to arrange an international Middle East peace conference and in order to "dispel any doubt" about the future of the (occupied) territories. The recent decision by Defence Minister Rabin to pump some 20 million cubic metres of water annually from the West Bank must be seen also in this vein and context. Needless to remind, Mr. Yitzhak Rabin is a key member of the Labour Party which professes solid support to the conference idea.

The upshot of all these observations is not to abandon hope and

forego the conference idea. Rather it is an invitation to our policy-makers to persevere in their determination to hold the conference as soon as possible yet at the same time start thinking of contingency plans should the international community's call for the conference come to naught. Wise statesmanship requires that we do not put "all our eggs in one basket." Careful scrutiny of the "cards" in the hands of the Arab side would readily reveal that our people in the occupied territories constitute our strongest asset which could be mobilised and played in the most effective manner in order to extricate honourable terms for peace with Israel. To do so, we need to embark on new, bold, and imaginative bridge-building with our people across the current cease-fire lines. Meaningful and bonafide dialogue with them on the grass roots level could serve as the foundation for futuristic and sound bridge-construction between the East and West Banks of Jordan. After twenty years of separation between the Arab people of the West Bank on one hand and the Arab World on the other, there developed a tremendous gap between the two sides on more than one level and in more than one dimension. Much enlightened and innovative work needs to be undertaken in order to rectify the separation syndrome which has engulfed our people across the Jordan River. On many occasions one hears the stereotyped comment often made in the West Bank to the effect that they are in "one valley" and the Arab World is in "another." Accurate feed-back information about their state of mind and national mood is urgently needed in order to proceed on the right track in our collective endeavours to consolidate the links and ties with them and their lands. Archaic methods obviously need to be abandoned and replaced with sophisticated and up to date avenues to ensure proper, sound and truthful communications. Should we succeed in such efforts, the cause of peace would be greatly enhanced, whether or not the projected peace conference ever takes place.

## A voice of hope and moderation

The following is the full-text of an interview that His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan granted to the Canadian magazine Maclean's during his visit to Canada in early June

Maclean's: Although Peres and the Labour half of the Israeli coalition want a peace conference, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and the Likud element are adamantly opposed. In view of that, are hopes for peace talks realistic?

Prince Hassan: (The position) of half the Israeli cabinet and almost half the Knesset members on an international conference is a clear indication of a change of mood — a great step forward in itself. But getting the horse to drink is not uniquely an Israeli responsibility, nor a Jordanian responsibility. We need the understanding and support of the international community. The importance of the Peres initiative is that it carries a rippling of deep support among

Jewish communities in North America. A dialogue with the Soviet Union is another new feature. The recognition by Peres that the conference can legitimise a peace process through the presence of the five Security Council members is an extremely valuable contribution. But the difficulty is that resolving the Palestine question cannot be a sustained effort unless we desensitise the Lebanon and the Gulf issue. The spilling of these related zones of instability would be too difficult and too delicate to handle. I think we are fairly upbeat at the present time, but that cannot last long.

Maclean's: What are the chances of bringing the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) into peace talks within a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation?

Prince Hassan: The (recent session of the) Palestine National Council in Algiers deliberately left the question of the peace conference open. The 1985 accord between Jordan and the

PLO, which was suspended by the council, is still a workable formula — that is to say Palestinian-Jordanian cooperation. But I think the chances of any of this being realised lie very much with the collective will of all the parties and in particular the Security Council members.

Maclean's: Does Jordan still recognise the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people?

Prince Hassan: We recognise the 1974 Arab summit resolution on the issue. If — and it is an iffy situation — the PLO ceased to represent (the Palestinians) within the context of Arab politics, then the question of Palestinian representation would take a new form.

Maclean's: Would you then take non-PLO Palestinians into a joint delegation?

Prince Hassan: I think it is premature to talk of plans. We have always said that this is an in-house affair and should remain



so. If I were to comment, it would give the impression that we have some sort of God-given right to pick and choose. The situation is so desperate that the constants have to remain just that. Jordan is interested in the separation of the land (from Israeli occupation) and interested in giving the Palestinian people the right of free choice.

Maclean's: To reunite the PLO, its leader, Yasser Arafat, joined

with the more radical factions in Algeria. How could he turn around now and recognise Israel? Prince Hassan: His tactical flexibility is well known. Both the left and the centre of the PLO are agreed on this formula (for an international conference). The interesting element in it is the intention of the PLO leadership to open dialogue with Jordan, Syria and Egypt. Again, the common ground in such a dialogue would be the international conference, and the outer layer of the onion is the role of the superpowers. So, if unanimity can be developed among the regional players, the PLO will have an adequate face-saving formula to make a new about-face.

Maclean's: A recent West Bank poll indicates that the vast majority there supports the PLO and rejects Jordanian rule. How does that affect your position?

Prince Hassan: We are not in the popularity stakes. If it were only three per cent, I couldn't care less. The main thing is to main-

tain Arab identity in the occupied territory — to liberate those territories and to give the Palestinians the right of free choice. In physical terms — as was clearly stated in the 1985 accord (for joint negotiation by Jordan and the PLO) — a confederation is the only formula acceptable to Jordan and, in fact, to the PLO. And it does not defy human ingenuity to look at the various special-status arrangements — which even you in Canada have — in finessing the final outcome. Public opinion is very volatile.

Maclean's: It is widely believed that Jordan has as much to fear as Israel from an independent Palestinian state.

Prince Hassan: What we are concerned about is the viability of an independent state. Statehood is not a question of symbolism, it is a question of substance — particularly if we are to talk about stable statehood — and that reality is our concern, as is the question of Palestinian refugees and the price of peace.

## Pakistan's General Zia has cash-flow problems

John Elliott, recently in Pakistan's capital of Islamabad, looks at that country's fragile economy, which somehow always manages to stay afloat.

TEN years after Gen. Zia Ul Haq, president of Pakistan, seized power in a military coup his government recently suffered the unusual humiliation of being forced by public demonstrations and political protests to withdraw its annual budget and put forward alternative measures for tackling the country's endemic public deficit problems.

With characteristic political skill developed since his coup 10 years ago, President Zia avoided any blame for the embarrassing fiasco and stayed in the background. It was Mr. Mohammed Khan Junejo, prime minister, who took the flak and withdrew the proposals within four days, rapidly producing a slightly smaller alternative for the original 175 billion-rupee (\$10.06 billion) budget.

Faced with a need for higher government revenues and lower spending, Mr. Junejo is doing a penance.

He and other ministers and officials are ostentatiously driving around in small cars and are forgoing first-class airline seats. There are also other economies, all of which however scarcely skim the surface of Pakistan's under-funded over-spending which produced an overall budget deficit in 1986-87 of Rp45 billion, 8 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP). Perhaps significantly for a country which has been under direct or indirect military rule for 10 years, it was the imposition of a "defence tax" which caused the outcry. This was a cumulative 5 per cent surcharge on imports, excise duty and income tax, which would ultimately boost prices of some goods by more than 15 per cent. Retail prices, including bottles of soft drinks on a day when temperatures were above 100F, immediately soared by up to 30 per cent or more — and street protests began.

Mr. Junejo and his colleagues had wrongly assumed that all Pakistanis, with their country based on one side by Soviet troops in Afghanistan and on the other by India, would gladly pay more in the name of the nation's defence, and even tolerate the surcharge raising Rp11.3 billion a year when defence spending was only budgeted to rise by Rp5 billion.

Defence spending now totals Rp40-45 billion a year and takes up 26 per cent of the current expenditure budget. It amounts to 6.6 per cent of GDP, about the same as spending on development, and slightly more than the other big drain on the exchequer, debt-servicing, which has been rising sharply and takes 21 per cent.

So the defence surcharge was a desperate attempt by bureaucrats to deal with the country's serious problem of resource mobilisation. Its aim was to raise substantial funds within an extremely narrow tax base, which is not being reformed for political expediency, and a corrupt collec-

tion system. Pakistan's other major indicators are buoyant. There is sustained economic growth at 6-6.5 per cent, although this might be hit by recent rains harming the crucial wheat crop. Inflation until the budget was only 4.5 to 5 per cent.

Exports, boosted by demand for cotton, are rising this year by 17 to 18 per cent and imports are declining at about 7 per cent. But this could change dramatically next year, possibly with export growth falling to 5 per cent. A new three-year trade policy was announced recently in an attempt to sustain the improvements.

The Pakistan economy, heavily supported by U.S. aid, puzzles many observers, including economists. "Every time you look at it, it's OK, but there are always basic things wrong and dangers ahead, emphasising its fragility. But these things never actually bring it down," says one international observer.

The World Bank's annual review recently described the eco-

nomy as structurally weak in the short term. It cited increasing concentration of exports in limited areas such as textiles, a growing foreign debt-service ratio at 21 per cent and fragile balance of payments — a current account deficit amounting to a record 5 per cent of GNP in 1984-85 and 3.1 per cent last year.

Remittances from Pakistanis working overseas are causing concern after a decline in Middle East oil prices. Remittances act as a driving force for demand in the economy, as well as being a major contributor to the balance of payments, but are falling by 10-12 per cent or more a year. This year, they total about \$2.3 billion, which could fall as low as \$1.5 billion, according to some government economists, before recovering.

In the medium term, there are other problems. Pakistan's population of 99.2 million is

growing at 3.1 per cent, faster even than nearby Bangladesh, and one of the highest rates in the world. Literacy is low at about 6 per cent, with a dearth of primary education.

Most serious of all is the growing deficit, up to 8 per cent of GDP this year from 5 per cent in 1981-82, and causing growing domestic and foreign debt problems.

Domestic savings, in a consumer-oriented country with no cultural tradition in saving, amount to only 14 per cent of GDP. The World Bank and International Monetary Fund estimate 16 to 20 per cent is needed. Neighbouring India and China achieve 23 and 25 per cent.

Only about 1 per cent of the population is in the tax net and tax collection has been stagnant at 13 per cent of GNP for 20 years.

— Financial Times feature.

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# AIDS cure seeker caught in the crossfire

The Wellcome Foundation, manufacturer of the drug Zovirax which is helping to fight AIDS, has been hurt by accusations of greed and profiteering. Tony Jackson talked to Alfred Sheppard, the firm's chairman.

LONDON — Mr. Alfred Sheppard, chairman of the Wellcome Foundation, is in charge of the only drug available against the killer disease acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). It is a gratifying position, but it puts him in the crossfire.

Zovirax, otherwise known as AZT, is not only the single hope for AIDS sufferers, it is also exceedingly expensive, at around \$8,000 for a year's treatment. These two facts have inevitably prompted charges of greed and profiteering, with the hostility strongest in the U.S., where by far the bulk of the drug is sold.

Mr. Sheppard is deeply sensitive to the charge, but finds it hard to refute. To argue the case publicly would mean going into details of costs and pricing which are traditionally so sensitive for

the drug industry that the company cannot bring itself to break its habit of secrecy.

It seems, however, that profit margins on the drug are if anything lower than some others in the Wellcome portfolio. Zovirax, for instance, Wellcome's biggest-selling product and the only drug available against herpes, costs roughly the same as Zovirax, unit for unit. But Zovirax, with a very complex, 16-stage manufacturing process, is the more expensive drug to make.

Talking to Mr. Sheppard, one also forms the suspicion that the pricing of Zovirax was in practice so difficult as to be almost a shot in the dark.

Mr. Sheppard begins with the conventional arguments of the drug industry. That only one candidate drug in 10,000 makes it

to the marketplace; that on the basis of winners paying for losers the average drug costs \$100 million to bring to market; that effective patent life for a new drug is eight years and falling.

"All these complications are things you have to recover from the market. But actually arriving at a price is a delicate business. With Zovirax, we set a price which was evolved in the U.S. from marketing views, and then tried to translate that to other markets. Exchange rates have changed things since, but in principle we wanted a common price."

So what were these marketing views? What, for instance, were the sales projections? "We've found it very difficult to tell ourselves we've got a handle on sales projections for Zovirax."

"The figures for AIDS cases notified to the World Health Organisation are around 52,000 and half of them are dead. That doesn't include ARC (AIDS-re-

lated complex) cases, or seropositives. The U.S. centres for disease control reckon about 1.5 million seropositives in the U.S., but we don't have a product licence for seropositives or ARC cases. We've got clinical trials going on to rush the drug to these markets as soon as possible, but we haven't got there yet."

So if not sales projections, what other factors were there? "Risk. If the virus were to go away overnight, we've made a very big commitment—including commitments to purchase of raw materials."

A figure of \$80 million has been quoted as the cost of research and development so far for Zovirax. "I don't know where that figure came from," said Mr. Sheppard. So what is the true figure? "I don't have it. But a very significant proportion of our research and development in the past couple of years has been on AIDS—we had over 100 people working on it at one time."

In addition, he says, there are many clinical trials still to come. "That will be a growing cost, though we will be getting revenues by then to offset it. I've just authorised taking on more scientists in the U.S. to hurry our clinical trials through."

Mr. Sheppard also points out the difficulties of pricing a drug for which there is no precedent in the marketplace. Parallels from the past might include Tagamet, the pioneering ulcer drug from Smithkline of the U.S., which came to the market 10 years ago and was the world's biggest selling drug until overtaken recently by a more recent competitor, Glaxo's Zantac.

"There's a lot of intuitive thinking in this. In many cases, we have a market benchmark, but Zovirax is the exception. We are unable to build up a price with slide-rule precision, but I don't think anyone can in the drug industry."

"It's a novel compound and a

ghostly novel disease, and who knows what's going to come at us in the way of competition? Though please God it does, from the point of view of society."

The question over-charging for the drug is in any case largely an American one, since in almost all other countries in the world drug prices are directly controlled by government.

But even in America, there was a limiting factor. "If we were to charge what appeared to be an enormously high price, there would in my opinion be a wave of public revulsion which would impinge on us in all sorts of ways."

In the end, he reverts to a plea for understanding. "Try not to fall into the trap I see everywhere—all the world asking questions based on long-term experience in the pharmaceutical industry, aimed at an unbelievably short track record on this drug and this disease"—Financial Times feature.

## Near-misses heighten fears of aviation disaster

By Irwin Arief  
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Two near-collisions of passenger jets over the Atlantic Ocean within 24 hours last week have heightened fears of an aviation disaster during the peak summer travel season.

But federal air safety regulators say the near-misses, though worrisome, do not mean that the skies over the United States are unsafe.

"Near midair collision reports are a serious matter, sure, but they are being made into an index of safety that they never were in the past," said an official of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), which operates the U.S. air traffic control system.

"A much better indicator is the accident rate, which has been on the decline over the past 10 years," said the official, who asked anonymity.

A Delta Airlines wide-body Lockheed jet drifted 100 km off course en route to Cincinnati from London on July 8 and nearly collided with a Continental Boeing jumbo jet heading to Newark, N.J., from London.

The Delta flight came close enough — 30 metres — for passengers aboard the Continental aircraft to read its markings. Two other commercial airlines were in the area at the time, and a Continental spokesman has said that the other pilots urged its pilot not to report the incident.

"There were several requests and each time, our crew adamantly refused," said the spokesman, Bruce Hicks.

Hicks said he was not certain who raised the possibility of a cover-up but the Washington Post reported it was first suggested by the Delta crew.

"Our guys said, 'of course we're going to report it. There's no question of that,'" Hicks said.

On July 9, a Pan American World Airways Airbus A-310 and a Viasa Venezuela DC-10 jet flying in opposite directions came within a quarter mile of each other at the same altitude about 1,400 kms south of New York City, federal officials said.

Both incidents are under investigation by officials of the FAA and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), a government watchdog agency that studies transportation accidents and issues safety improvement recommendations.

Both agencies said they would not comment on their respective probes until they were com-

pleted.

The Delta-Continental near-miss is also being probed by the Canadian Aviation Safety Board since it took place in air space under the jurisdiction of air traffic controllers in Gander, Newfoundland.

Also troubling to air travellers was last week's finding by the NTSB that a 1986 mid-air collision between an Aeromexico DC-9 and a small private airplane was due primarily to inadequacies in the U.S. air traffic control system.

That accident, which occurred over Cerritos, California, as the DC-9 approached the Los Angeles airport for a landing, killed 82 people, including 64 passengers and crew aboard the DC-9, three people in the private aircraft and 15 on the ground.

The accident occurred because the private plane wandered into the restricted airspace around the Los Angeles air terminal, the safety board said. The board concluded that the small plane was never seen by the DC-9 pilot before the crash.

The watchdog agency put much of the blame on an FAA policy that pilots flying in clear weather are expected to avoid midair crashes simply by looking out their cockpit windows and avoiding any aircraft they see headed toward them.

The NTSB called earlier this year for a ceiling on air traffic this summer.

Citing soaring air traffic levels, a growing number of controller errors and the increasing incidence of near-midair collisions in recent months, the safety board said it feared the result would be a catastrophic airline accident.

But the FAA responded that a ceiling was unnecessary. It said it would deal with overcrowding in the skies on a case-by-case basis as it occurred.

FAA officials point out that most near midair collisions do not pose an immediate hazard to either plane and typically involve military and small private aircraft rather than commercial airliners.

"They create a vivid image in the public's mind, but they commonly involve safe distances with no danger," one official said.

According to FAA statistics, 494 near mid-air collision reports had been filed with the agency as of June 30.

About 20 per cent of these involved a "critical" hazard while 55 per cent involved a "potential" hazard and the remaining 25 per cent involved "no hazard" the FAA said.

## Water: Where it is, where it's headed

AS the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade draws to its close in 1990, it is becoming obvious that its ambitious goal of providing water and sanitation to every person on the globe will not be reached. Presently, somewhat incomplete statistics from WHO indicate that 75 per cent of urban areas and 40 per cent of rural areas have been provided with safe drinking water; and that 50 per cent of urban areas and 15 per cent of rural areas have been provided with adequate sanitation.

Yet this shortfall has come as no surprise to those heavily involved in the business of water management. "A Swedish farmer took his son into the field and pointed up at the sky," Martin Beyer, the chief of UNICEF's Water and Environmental Sanitation Team, says, beginning an anecdote from his homeland to explain the real point of the Water Decade. "Aim for the stars, my boy. You might reach the roof of the cowshed."

It is sage advice, transmitted by a man who has spent the last 17 years with UNICEF, specialising in bringing the liquid of life closer to the doorstep of the poor. It has been quiet and persistent work, and until recently, Mr. Beyer and UNICEF were rather alone on the international level in propagating low-cost methods of providing water and sanitation. "UNICEF currently employs 140 programme officers in some 45 countries who work to provide water and sanitation. Annually, UNICEF spends \$60 million, or roughly 20 per cent of its programme expenditure, on water and sanitation."

"The absolute figures don't matter so much. It matters what you do with the money," Mr. Beyer says. "If you spread \$60 million over almost 100 countries, it is not that much, really."

Radical impact

Yet the provision of clean water can have a radical impact on the health and well-being of mothers and children, as a study in the Sudan has shown. In Bahar Al Ghazal, an area that receives very little rainfall, women spent six hours of their work day alone in collecting water. With the installation of a UNICEF supported water supply system, the women there were able to have two hours a day of their own to rest.

"But it's not only the work saved that is important," Mr. Beyer says. "It's energy expenditure, too. Half of their caloric intake was spent on fetching water. So you see, malnutrition is connected with water, too."

"Water is also only one factor in public health. Personal hygiene

is inculcated with the value and necessity of common responsibility; the health benefits of water were undermined because they were not coupled successfully with proper sanitation practices; and lasting results were hard to isolate, prove and quantify."

At the same time, UNICEF launched child survival strategies that were simpler to communicate, cheaper to institute, and easier to justify publicly. Lasting results in water and sanitation might take half a generation to witness, as so much of positive change is behavioural. But an immunised child is immediately freed from the threat of certain diseases.

"Frankly, I was afraid that with the laudable but somewhat impetuous approach of UNICEF to child survival, that we would throw the baby out with the bathwater," Mr. Beyer says. "In fact, I had the feeling that our own management up to very recently went very much after principles that confused strategies with statistics."

"But I think better counsel is prevailing. One thing that has helped ease us over this period of limbo is that we are now coming to a much more balanced view, partly under pressure from the field."

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"Water is also only one factor in public health. Personal hygiene



Martin Beyer, samples water from a newly installed India Mark II handpump in Raga, Bahar Al Ghazal province, Sudan.

— washing hands, getting the excreta off, the garbage off — having things like housing — it's the whole environment that really counts. All such things are part of the message."

Technological advances over the last 20 years, too, have made water and sanitation much more cost effective. There are drills now, available for about \$50,000, that can bore a hole through hard rock and hit water in a single day. Is that a miracle, or is it just a rock to the same depth, could take up to a year. In addition, hand-pump technology has greatly advanced. One of the most popular, the Mark II manufactured in India, is simple, durable and easy to maintain.

Yet despite the advances in technology and technique, there are still two billion people on this planet who have yet to be reached by clean water, and experts estimate that to do so would cost \$150 billion in total.

Is that a lot of money? "Since the world's present military budgets run to a total over \$1,000 billion every single year — there is such a tremendous waste there," Mr. Beyer reasons, "if you compare it to that, then it's peanuts what we are talking about."

In the last few years, global expenditure on water has been up to \$10-12 billion annually. The annual increase we will need is about 50 per cent of the present input, from a funding point of view."

Abidjan Declaration

If such funds were made available, the world is in the best position ever to take advantage of it, thanks primarily to two recent developments. The first was the adoption last October of the Abidjan Declaration at the close

of the All-Africa Seminar on Low-Cost Rural and Urban Fringe Water Supply.

"It's a milestone really. It's the first official statement where the whole international donor community, together with 30 governments in Africa, directly state that they are bloody well going into lower cost options which would be 20, 30, 40 times cheaper than municipal things," Mr. Beyer says. "They are decided to take it that way, and that means a moral obligation on both sides — donors and governments."

The second development that is bringing water closer to the doorstep of more people is the increased co-ordination between the big Four United Nations Agencies — UNDP, WHO, the World Bank, and UNICEF — at the country level.

"There is no written agreement, and there never will be much paper between us," Mr. Beyer says, "but it is there effectively. It leaves us much more liberty of operation."

"This water supply business is like criminality. You have to do it on a large scale in order for it to really pay."

"My personal proposal for quite a few years now has been to take all the sections from the different U.N. agencies dealing with water, join them into a kind of corporation under the U.N. flag, and do the work on contract for the others. Of course that's very utopian."

"I called this idea the U.N. Water Corporation, or the UNWC, or also, the seven W's — The World Wide Water Well and Wee-Wee Wallas. Imagine. The forming of the big Four group is a step in that direction" — UNICEF's Action for Children magazine.

Randa Habib's  
Corner

## Ignorant love

YOU must have seen them with happy smiles on their faces, and with their babies on the knees? Well, what is wrong with that, you may ask? Nothing, except that the babies in question are sitting on their father's knees — behind the steering.

The mother is also in the car, and other members of the family too. They all look happy, enjoying the afternoon drive. But also and mostly enjoying the site of the dearest and youngest acting as a driver.

Mother is very happy when her little boy starts honking, and the little brothers and sisters, in the back seat jump in joy and encourage their little baby-brother to act as a real driver. The little one grabs the steering with both hands, and often also with his mouth, while daddy is so proud that all the passers-by and other drivers notice it and smile. The expression on his face tells it clearly: That's my boy, he is only 14 months old, and he is already a driver.

The problem is that this ignorant exercise is very dangerous to the child both physically and mentally. First, it diverts the father's attention from driving, thus increasing the probability of accidents. Second, it is very dangerous for the child in case of accident; he would be crushed between his father's chest and the wheel. And third, the whole exercise is lesson in bad-driving manners for children to emulate.

What makes me furious, however, is that traffic wardens who enforce the use of seatbelts and other traffic regulations seem not to bother about such dangerous acts of nonsense. Such bad habits should not be allowed to grow roots in our society. Educators, the media and concerned authorities and societies should combat them persistently.

## London's Fleet Street changing hands

By Michael West  
The Associated Press

LONDON — Fleet Street has been associated with printing and publishing ever since Wynkyn de Worde opened a printing office there around 1500, but now its colourful days as the home of Britain's national press are numbered.

Newspapers are shedding jobs, cutting costs and moving out to new high-technology plants in London's East End and other sites. Banks and other institutions from the city, the capital's fast-expanding financial district immediately to the east, are moving in, sending Fleet Street real estate values soaring.

The latest to leave are journalists at the Daily Telegraph, who on July 11, moved from their Fleet Street newsroom to offices in the paper's new plant in the Docklands redevelopment area 8 kilometres to the east. Other Daily Telegraph departments will follow later.

The Times of London, its weekly stablemate The Sunday Times, and the daily tabloid The Sun and the weekly News of the World, all owned by publisher Rupert Murdoch, set up in the east end Docklands area in January 1986.

The Telegraph journalists put the paper together for the last time in the Fleet Street building on July 10, then marked their departure with a cake and ale at the King and Keys tavern, a favourite Fleet Street watering hole next door.

The Daily Telegraph, which has a daily circulation of 1.15 million, was founded in 1855. It has been produced from premises on its current site since 1860, but the imposing Daily Telegraph building on the site, which has been bought by an American investment bank, Goldman Sachs, dates from 1930.

United Newspapers Plc, publishers of The Daily Express, The Star and The Sunday Express, announced July 2 that it plans to leave Fleet Street, and move to a new plant on the south side of the River Thames in about two years' time.

Lord Stevens, the chairman of United Newspapers, said the move would entail the loss of 2,500 jobs. The group fired 2,000 staff last year. The Express's celebrated back glass and chrome building in Fleet Street is to be sold with a reported price tag of £75 million (\$120 million).

Of the papers with plants in the

immediate Fleet Street area, only Robert Maxwell's Mirror group in Holborn — publishers of The Daily Mirror, The Sunday Mirror and The Sunday People — has not announced plans to move.

After years in the doldrums because of high costs, strikes and refusal by the once powerful Fleet Street print production unions to accept modern, cost-cutting computerised printing methods because of job-loss fears, national newspapers are mostly prospering again.

The result is a fierce circulation war amongst 13 national morning dailies and 10 national weeklies on sale each Sunday, while Londoners have a choice of three evening papers.

Murdoch broke the Fleet Street log-jam last year when he moved his four daily and Sunday titles to Wapping in East London. He fired 5,500 print production workers when they went on strike against the move and used electricians to produce his papers.

Named after the River Fleet, which now runs below ground, Fleet Street was a mian thoroughfare of medieval London.

The first newspaper produced there was the now long defunct Daily Courant, which first appeared on March 11, 1702. Before the arrival of the newspapers, Fleet Street had long been a showplace for freaks, giants, fire-eaters and wild animals.

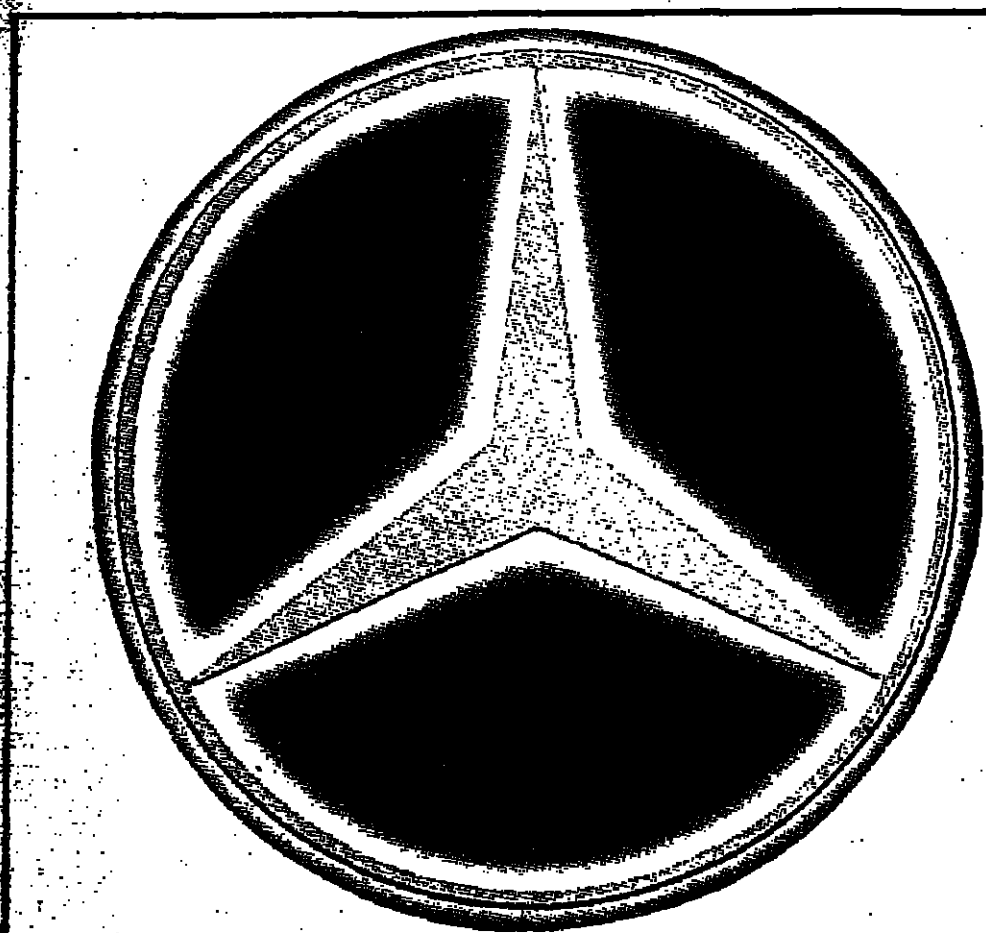
Diary Samuel Pepys was born in Salisbury Court just off Fleet Street in 1633. Samuel Johnson, the 18th century dictionary-maker, lived and worked in the area and regularly dined at the Mitre tavern.

A plaque to British reporter and mystery writer Edgar Wallace, who died in 1932, records: "To Fleet Street he gave his heart."

Another Fleet Street plaque, to journalist T.P. O'Connor who died in 1929, recalls: "His pen could lay bare the bones of a book or the soul of a statesman in a few vivid lines."

The Sunday Times headlined a report last month on the takeover by big business: "Fleet Street paved with gold. Financial conglomerates are paying enormous sums for the premises vacated by newspapers."

In the most profitable newspaper deal so far, the Pearson Group, owners of the Financial Times, last month sold the paper's Bracken House headquarters in Cannon Street just to the east of Fleet Street for £143 million.



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## Argentina fades away in S. American Cup mist

**BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (Agencies) —** Colombia posted a 2-1 victory over 1986 World Cup titleholder Argentina on Saturday to win third place in the Americas Cup Soccer Tournament.

Colombia fought a determined rearguard action in thickening mist to hold onto a first-half lead and beat the world champions. Defending Americas Cup champion Uruguay was meeting Chile for the championship on late Sunday. Uruguay had defeated Argentina 1-0 in the semifinals Thursday, while Chile downed Colombia 2-1 in overtime on Wednesday.

Playing before only 5,000 fans in heavy fog at River Plate Stadium, the Colombians built a commanding 2-0 lead on first-period goals by Gabriel Gomez and Juan Galeano.

Argentina's lone goal came at 41 minutes of the second period

by Claudio Caniggia.

The Americas Cup, played since 1917, matched national soccer teams from 10 South American countries.

Eliminated in early play in the two-week tournament, held in Buenos Aires, Cordoba and Rosario, were Brazil, an early favourite, Bolivia, Peru, Paraguay, Ecuador and Venezuela.

The Colombians, arguably the most exciting team in the tournament with their neat, quick-passing game, shocked Argentina by taking the lead from their first attack after only eight minutes.

Goalkeeper Luis Islas was slow to react to a dipping shot from outside the penalty area by strik-

er Gomez and dived late as the ball flew in under the crossbar following a good move started by Carlos Valderrama.

Valderrama, a talented midfielder with a deceptively languid style, set up Colombia's second goal 20 minutes later, neatly lobbing the ball over the defence to the unmarked Juan Galeano, who ran through to score from close range.

Colombia, who had never beaten Argentina before in South American Cup games, had little trouble thwarting an ineffective Argentine attack made weaker by an only half-fit Diego Maradona.

Maradona showed some flashes of the skill that made him the star of last year's World Cup but he was slow with his best chance in the 15th minute and goalkeeper Rene Higuita leapt to take the ball at his feet.

Argentina improved with two changes at halftime and spent most of the rest of the match attacking.

They were unlucky when substitute Funes' 48th minute shot hit a post but then faded away in front of a meagre fans in the 75,000-capacity stadium as a thick mist descended, reducing visibility from the stands and press box to almost zero.

Maradona finally laid on Argentina's consolation goal for young striker Claudio Caniggia, who headed home his curling corner kick four minutes from time.

## Aouita, Cram to star in Nice

**NICE, France (R) —** Said Aouita and Steve Cram, heroes of an epic world record duel here two years ago, return to the French Riviera on Monday though they will stay out of each other's way on the track.

The two middle-distance rivals are among 10 world record-holders competing in the Nice Grand Prix meeting, a total reduced by the withdrawal of injured pole vault world champion Sergei Bubka of the Soviet Union.

World 1,500 metres champion Cram, who pulled out of last Friday's London Grand Prix, resumes competition in the 800 metres, while Moroccan Aouita opts for the mile, in which the Briton holds the world record.

Cram pipped the fast-finishing Aouita by 0.04 seconds to take the world 1,500 metres mark below 3½ minutes in an enthralling race at this "Nikaia" meeting two years ago. Aouita, however, is the current holder.

Aouita, Olympic champion over 5,000 metres, races against Spain's Jose-Luis Gonzalez, who beat Cram in the European Cup and won Friday's 1,500 metres in London in the absence of the Briton.

But the organisers said Olympic 800 metres champion Joaquim Cruz of Brazil had pulled out and returned to the U.S. because of a bronchial and larynx problem, while ex-Olympic champion Steve Ovett was also not competing, though he was in Nice to commentate for British Television.

American Calvin Smith, world 100 metres record-holder, runs in the 200 metres and Nigeria's Chidi Imoh, second fastest in the world over 100 metres last year, is

to line up in at least one of the sprints.

But Britain's Linford Christie, Europe's 100 metres champion, has pulled out after finishing a disappointing third behind American Lee McRae and Imoh on Friday and complaining of tiredness.

American Butch Reynolds, who ran the fastest 400 metres time ever recorded in Europe on Friday, was another last-minute withdrawal joining an absentee list headed by Bubka.

A Soviet team official told the organisers Saturday that Bubka had pulled a muscle in training on Friday and would be out for three weeks, jeopardising the vaulter's ambition of defending his world championship in Rome in less than two months.



Mohammad Ali

## Ali to receive treatment in Mexico

**MEXICO CITY (R) —** Former world heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali may receive specialised treatment for Parkinson's disease in Mexico, a source at the Mexican Social Security Institute has said.

A team of Mexican surgeons have developed a surgical procedure that has showed promising results against the disease, a progressive nervous disorder often accompanied by tremors.

The source, who did not wish to be identified, said: "The U.S. fighter will be treated in Mexico by one of the best Mexican specialists."

Ali will be examined by Dr. Ignacio Madrazo, one of the pioneers of the new technique that involves surgical implantations from the adrenal glands into an area of the brain involved in regulation of body movement, the source said.

The examination will be held on Monday or Tuesday in a private hospital in Mexico City, the source said, adding: "It's still not known if there will be an operation. It all depends on Dr. Madrazo's examination."

The three-time heavyweight champion arrived in Mexico on Thursday for a World Boxing Council (WBC) sponsored symposium on boxing medicine.

At the symposium, Ali appeared visibly affected by the disease, reacting slowly to reporters' questions, speaking in a barely audible voice and demonstrating a tick in his left hand.

## Sanchez wins Swiss Open title

**GSTAAD, Switzerland (AP) —** Third-seeded Emilio Sanchez of Spain, demonstrating his strong service and deft volleys, downed Ronald Agenor of Haiti 6-2, 6-3, 7-6 (7-5) Sunday to win the \$231,000 Swiss Open tennis tournament.

The 22-year-old Spaniard won the \$40,000 first prize and his first Grand Prix singles title of 1987 on the clay courts here.

Sanchez, a Davis Cup player for Spain, won the first two sets in just under one hour, profiting from the Haitian's weak back-

hand service returns.

Agenor, ranked 65th in the world and playing in his first Grand Prix final, rallied in the third set, breaking Sanchez's service in the fifth game.

"I played too quickly in the first two sets and finally settled down at the beginning of the third," he said later.

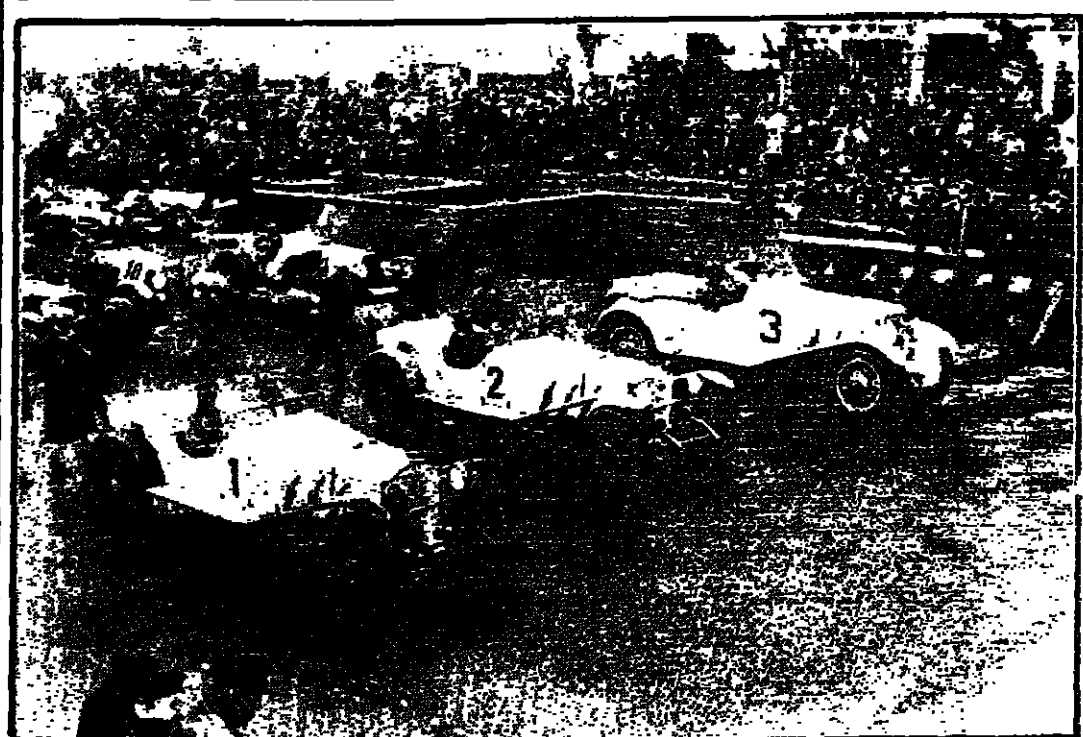
The 22-year-old resident of France served for the set at 5-4, quickly fell behind 0-40 and lost the game on unforced errors.

"I still lack a degree of concentration, and at this level of play,

mental lapses are not forgiven," he said.

Sanchez raced to a 6-1 lead in the tiebreaker and concluded the two-hour match on the fifth match point with a forehand drop volley.

"It was difficult playing here on clay after Wimbledon, but I adjusted as the tournament went on," Sanchez said. "I played well at Wimbledon, played well here, so I'm confident going in to the Davis Cup match against Paraguay, although I still must be more consistent mentally."



Rudolf Caracciola, who won the inaugural Nurburgring Grand Prix sixty years ago, sits behind

the wheels in his Mercedes-Benz with the starting number 1.

## Nurburgring: diamond jubilee of a famous racetrack

**ADENAU, (DaD) —** German motor racing ace and three-time Le Mans winner Klaus Ludwig from Bonn still sees the "good old Nurburgring" as "the finest racetrack in the world" — and the circuit that makes "the heaviest demands on the driver."

Even three-time Formula 1 world champion Niki Lauda of Austria, who suffered serious burns in a crash on the Nurburgring 11 years ago, is enthusiastic. The redesigned course, he says, is "absolutely safe and way ahead of anything else in the world."

They and many other drivers, not to mention millions of racing fans, feel the Nurburgring, where a variety of races are being held this summer to mark the circuit's diamond jubilee, is the finest in the world.

A special sense of romanticism that is hard to express in words makes racing fans' eyes shine and their hearts miss a beat when the famous racetrack south of Bonn is mentioned. The Nurburgring was built for reasons that were anything but romantic. In the early years of the 20th century the Eifel hill country was rated the "poor house of Prussia." In the 1920s the region's economic outlook was particularly bleak. Motor racing, which boomed after the First World War, might, it was felt, provide a badly-needed

boost. The project was backed by Mayor Andenauer of Cologne, later Federal Chancellor. About 3,000 men and women spent two years building the serpentine, 28.3-kilometre circuit.

The fans first thrilled on 19 June 1927 as Rudolf Caracciola, a young hotelier's son from Remagen on the Rhine, won the inaugural grand prix. It was seen by a crowd of 84,000 people. Caracciola went on to become one of the legendary drivers who made motor racing history on the Nurburgring. They have included Bernd Rosemeyer, Hermann Lang, Stirling Moss, Wolfgang

Graf Berghie von Trips, John Surtees, Graham Hill and Niki Lauda.

Yet in the 1970s it looked like curtains for the Nurburgring. Modern automotive technology had made increasingly breathtaking speeds possible — speeds that seemed to have passed the attractive but complicated and dangerous Eifel circuit by. Drivers, certainly Formula 1 drivers, felt the Nurburgring was no longer safe. The grand prix circus moved to the less dangerous (but less interesting) Hockenheim track further south on the Rhine.

## Mansell wins British Grand Prix again

**SILVERSTONE, England (Agencies) —** Nigel Mansell overtook his Williams-Honda teammate Nelson Piquet with two laps to go Sunday to win the British Formula One Grand Prix for the second successive year.

The 32-year-old Briton overcame a mid-race pit stop and cut back a 28-second lead held by the Brazilian to post his third victory of the season.

Piquet came home 1.918 seconds behind with another

Brazilian, Ayrton Senna, in third place, keeping his lead in the drivers' championship, in third place.

It was Mansell's second successive victory after his triumph last Sunday in the French Grand Prix at Le Castellet.

Satoru Nakajima (Japan) in Lotus was fourth, Derek Warwick (Britain) in an Arrows finished fifth and Teo Fabi (Italy) in a Benetton was sixth.

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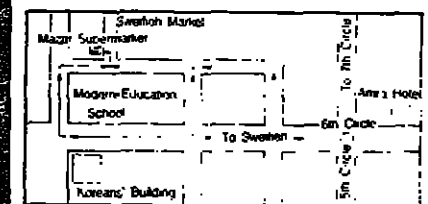
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هنا من الاجال



## Weekly Financial Report

By Fouad Baishon

AMMAN — Last week the U.S. dollar moved higher but was still trading within a very narrow and thin range which made the trading on the currencies very small. The main reason behind this direction was the uncertain and unclear decisions taken in the Venice summit.

The dollar traded between 0.342-0.347 fils on the Jordanian dinar. Local banks were still covering their short dollar position because they feared that the dollar might move higher this week.

Charts indicate that the dollar could move a little bit lower this week due to an overbought situation on the dollar. The expected range for this week could be 0.338-0.347 fils.

The pound sterling traded lower against the dollar because of the dollar's strength. The pound traded between 0.555-0.561 fils.

The D.M. and the S.F. also traded lower because of the higher dollar. The D.M. traded between

0.1825, 0.1845 fils. The Swiss franc traded between 0.2180-0.2220 fils and the Austrian between 0.241-0.243 fils.

The Lebanese lira moved to record lows against the dollar because of the unstable political and economic situation in Lebanon. It traded between (550-450) L.L./J.D.

The Syrian lira traded between (98-93) S.L./J.D. and the Iraqi dinar traded between 0.15-0.16 fils.

The Kuwaiti dinar traded between 1.200-1.210 on the J.D. Metals traded lower because of the dollar's strength. Gold fell to a low of \$442 an ounce from a high of \$450 an ounce.

Silver fell from \$7.75 an ounce to a low of \$7.50 an ounce. Charts still indicate that the metals have a potential to go higher.

Gold prices in Amman based upon the daily bulletin presented by the Jordan jewellery store are as follows:

Gold 21 carats per gramme JD 4,150-JD 4,100.  
Gold 18 carats per gramme JD 5,000-JD 4,500.

## Norway extends oil output cut

OSLO (OPECNA) — The Norwegian government decided to extend the existing 7.5 per cent cut in the country's North Sea oil production until the end of the year in support of OPEC's market and price stabilisation efforts.

The decision, taken at a cabinet meeting following a proposal by the energy and oil ministry to extend the current output limit, will come into effect on July 15.

Early this year, the Norwegian government introduced the oil production cut.

## Oman bans foreigners from work in some fields

MUSCAT (AP) — The Sultanate of Oman has banned foreigners from working as shepherds, hawkers or public relations officers, the Times of Oman has reported.

The ban was part of a drive to ease dependence on expatriates and make way for Omani labour to replace them, the newspaper said.

Oman, like many Gulf countries, has depended heavily on foreign labour to push through ambitious development plans fuelled by the oil riches of the past decade.

Also among the 11 occupations banned for foreigners were fishermen and fish sellers, sailors, Arabic and English typists and watchmen, the Times said.

It also listed workers operating small-scale mechanical equipment, light vehicle drivers, technical trade assistants and unskilled workers.

The paper said more than 50,000 foreigners left Oman last year.

It quoted the director-general of labour, Mr. Ahmad Ibn Ali Al Rajab, as saying: "There are no unemployed people in the Sultanate. Job opportunities are available for every Omani capable of working."

There are no official census figures in Oman, but the yearbook Middle East and North Africa 1987 lists the population as 1.2 million in 1985, with a very large margin for error. Of that number, about 55 per cent were believed to be foreigners, it said.

## Shell, Egypt sign accord

CAIRO (R) — A Royal Dutch/Shell Group subsidiary has concluded an agreement with Egypt to pump gas and oil under more attractive terms than allowed previously, a Shell spokesman said.

The subsidiary, Shell Winning, will produce oil at two concessions in the Western Desert. Shell's deputy general manager in Egypt, Mr. Tarek Heggy, told Reuters.

The agreement, negotiated with the state-owned Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation, is the first to be signed with a foreign firm using a new gas clause.

Under the clause, firms exploring for oil may sell gas they find to the government at a market-related price rather than simply recouping exploration and production costs.

The previous gas law did not allow the sale of gas and was unpopular with foreign firms, which were reluctant to help the government's drive to exploit gas fields without the chance of a return on investment.

Non-OPEC Egypt hopes to increase the use of gas as an energy source domestically so it can release more crude oil for export. It currently produces around 900,000 barrels per day of crude, of which roughly one-third is exported.

## Bahrain opposes 'mad' increase in oil prices

BAHRAIN (R) — A Bahraini minister was quoted Saturday as saying he opposed any "mad" increase in world oil prices.

"I believe \$18 per barrel is an acceptable price that gives oil the ability to compete and gives room to Gulf Cooperation Council countries to market their oil," Development and Industry Minister Youssef Shirawi told the weekly newspaper Al Adwa.

"I do not think it is in the interest of Gulf countries, as exporters, to raise the prices to mad figures," he said.

Four members of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council — Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates — are members of OPEC while the other two, Bahrain and Oman, follow OPEC policies.

OPEC (the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) decided last December to return

to fixed oil prices of around \$18 per barrel.

Many prices on the free, or spot, market have moved above that level and some OPEC members say there is enough market strength to raise official prices next year.

Countries with huge reserves such as Kuwait and Saudi Arabia say they favour stable prices in order to maintain oil demand.

Mr. Shirawi also said Bahrain, which operates a 250,000 barrel per day refinery, was considering setting up a new refinery in the next century.

"We intend to build a new refinery in the next century, which needs very large capital and long-term loans," he said, adding that it would also require a secure crude oil supply.

Bahrain produces only 43,000 barrels of oil a day.

## China to support OPEC

BEIJING (AP) — China has agreed to support efforts by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to shore up oil prices by limiting its own production, Venezuelan Oil Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti said.

Mr. Grisanti said the Chinese commitments were made by Vice Premier Li Peng. Speaking at a news conference, the minister said he did not ask the Chinese by how much they would limit their oil exports.

"They will watch closely the volume of the market, and they are not going to affect negatively the volume of prices," he said. "I believe that what is important is the political declaration of China," to support the OPEC efforts, he said, adding that he was "very satisfied" with the Chinese response.

Since a regular OPEC conference two weeks ago in Venice, Italy, at which agreements were reached adjusting the planned oil production of OPEC countries, the price of oil has gone up by \$1 a barrel, he said. "We have seen an important recovery of prices."

At the meeting, the OPEC countries decided to alter a production and price agreement reached in December 1986 under which the price of oil was fixed at \$18 a barrel and the volume of production at 15.8 million barrels per day during the first half of the year.

## Court awards prestigious gem firm to Saudi-U.S. company

PARIS (AP) — A Paris commercial court awarded the prestigious but bankrupt jewellery firm Chaumet to the American-Saudi holding company Invest Corp., a shareholder in Tiffany and Co.

Bids for Chaumet by French jeweller Alexandre Reza and the fashion house Hermes were turned down by Judge Jacques Bon.

untitled wealthy.

Chaumet, on the prestigious place Vendôme and with branches in Geneva, Brussels, London and New York, declared bankruptcy June 11. Brothers Jacques and Pierre Chaumet were jailed June 13 on charges of bankruptcy, breach of trust and fraud.

Invest Corp.'s winning offer for Chaumet was nearly 100 million francs (about \$16.6 million) plus a percentage on future sales not to exceed 40 million francs (about \$6.6 million).

## Church of England decides to retain S. Africa finance

YORK, England (AP) — Leaders of the Church of England declined on Saturday to get rid of all their investments in South Africa, despite pleas by some church members that the holdings were morally wrong.

The 570-member general synod of bishops, clergy and laity of the Anglican Church accepted on a show of hands the annual financial report without amendment.

Sir Douglas Lovelock, who as first church estates commissioner controls real estate and stock holdings for the church valued at just over £2 billion (\$3.2 billion), said its last holdings in South Africa were in multinational companies doing a fraction of their business in that country.

He said the church's income from those South African interests amounted to less than one-third of a penny in every pound (about half a cent in every dollar) of total income.

"For an institution of our size, if you have our sort of money to invest you have to have part of it in large international firms which trade all over the world. They have a very small stake in South Africa and we have a very small stake in them," he said.

The commissioners, who pay the salaries of the church's clergy, have been reducing their stake in companies with South African interests for more than 20 years because of opposition from church members. But the reduc-

tions were still not enough for some members of the synod at its regular summer session in York.

An Oxford clergyman, the Reverend William T. Whiffen, said there should be an "ethical investment committee" to tell the commissioners to get out of South Africa completely.

"Financiers don't have the moral or ethical fibre for that," he said.

Dean of St. Paul's Alan Webster said: "We need to send a clear signal to the suffering people of South Africa, living under the bitter injustice of apartheid, that we are on their side. I appeal to the commissioners for rather wider consultations — they do not realise how troubled people are by investments in an apartheid-dominated country."

Bishop of Oxford Richard Harries appealed to the commissioners to sell their £24.7 million (\$39.7 million) stake in the oil company, Shell Transport and Trading.

Bishop Harries said Shell, "more than any other company, underpins apartheid" by trading with the South African army and police, enabling South Africa's white-led government to "carry

on the illegal war in Namibia (South West Africa)."

Sir Lovelock responded that the Shell company was "an outstandingly good employer and not the only oil company with a major presence in South Africa." He did not name any other company.

Mr. Philip Lovegrove, a member of the church commissioners, said he was "fed up with the commissioners being told to do the right things so we can all have clean hands."

"Total disinvestment from South Africa would result in a substantial loss of income and diminish the capital value of the (church's) portfolio," he said.

Mr. Lovegrove said if each of the church's 43 bishops reduced their stipends by £7,500 (\$12,075) that would about equal the amount earned from South Africa.

Some of the bishops in the front row of the synod smiled at the remark. Stipends range from the archbishop of Canterbury's £27,860 (\$44,855) to £12,035 (\$19,376) for a diocesan bishop.

Mr. Lovegrove said if the level of giving by parishioners were higher, it could dispense with some investments.

The church commissioners said that for every £1 or (\$1.61) of their income, 34 pence comes from the parishes, 30 pence from real estate, 30 pence from stocks and shares and six pence from loans.

## Japan posts \$6.6 billion trade surplus in June

TOKYO (AP) — Japan posted an unadjusted trade surplus of \$6.6 billion in June, down from \$7.35 billion a year earlier but up slightly from \$6.49 billion in May, the finance ministry has said.

The ministry said in an announcement the surplus in June dwindled for the second consecutive month.

Exports in June were measured with the dollar at 142.67 yen, compared with 169.07 yen a year earlier and 139.98 yen in May. Imports were gauged with the dollar standing at 142.58 yen, in contrast with 169.29 yen a year earlier and 139.91 yen in the previous month, said the announcement.

Adjusted exports edged up 1.3 per cent to \$18.661 billion from \$18.418 billion in May, while imports rose 9.7 per cent to \$13.149 billion from \$11.983 billion.

Exports to the United States went down from a year earlier, showing a 12.8 per cent decline to \$6.793 billion. Imports from the United States also declined, in contrast with the growth in overall imports, falling 16.6 per cent to \$2.779 billion and left Japan with a trade surplus of \$4.014 billion in June.

The ministry attributed the sluggish exports in part to a stall in motor vehicle shipments. Overall motor vehicle exports to the United States tumbled 17.8 per cent from the year-earlier level to \$1.999 billion. Car exports alone showed a 14.7 per cent drop, totalling \$1.660 billion.

With the June trade figures, Japan's exports in the first six months of this year totalled \$108.40 billion, up 9.9 per cent from the same period last year. Imports amounted to \$68.27 billion, up 6.0 per cent, resulting in a trade surplus of \$40.13 billion.

## Mexican inflation rate hits 55%

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico's inflation rate dropped slightly in June but the year's projected total remained at an all-time high, according to a report by the Central Bank of Mexico.

The report showed that consumer prices rose 7.2 per cent in June, a slight decline from May's 7.5 per cent. The increase brought the inflation rate for the first six months of the year to 54.9

per cent, and the report projected a 12-month inflation rate of 109.8 per cent.

Government economists had targeted a reduction in last year's January-to-December record inflation total from 105.7 per cent to around 80 per cent for 1987, but persistently skyrocketing prices forced a revision of projections.

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, JULY 13, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The daytime is good for putting your creative ideas into motion and making plans for the weekend. Poor judgment in the evening will lead to a mood for romance.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Give your full attention to supporting the ambitions of your loved ones. A small gamble during the day could pay off big.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can accomplish a great deal today in home improvement planning. Be very cautious on the highways.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Attend to your correspondence, especially to a shut-in who misses you. Watch your budget and entertain at home.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Your money manager can help you save on a property repair. Be careful moving around this evening.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Dress up and go out this evening. This and a visit to long neglected friends will help you forget your worries.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Discuss your plans for the future with your loved one, and don't let anyone side-track you. Don't force your ideas.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A charitable social affair with a good friend could be worthwhile. If you attend, don't be pushy in conversations.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Avoid public affairs. Instead, start that project you've been thinking about. A personal trip is okay if it's inexpensive.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Today's the time to follow through on a new idea and to develop an angle on a special talent. Don't ask favors today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Focus on improving your efficiency; don't be side-tracked by an emotional friend. Tonight is ideal for romance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Team up with an idea person and postpone tedious chores until later. Now is the time to focus on outside activities.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Beautify your surroundings with art work or renovation. A meeting with co-workers is a wise start for the week.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will have a charming demeanor and the ability to use it in obtaining almost anything. Teach this child to use the creative side of his or her nature to get good results from natural talents. Much encouragement is needed in spite of all this. Guard him or her from jealousy.

## THE Daily Crossword by Wilson McBeath

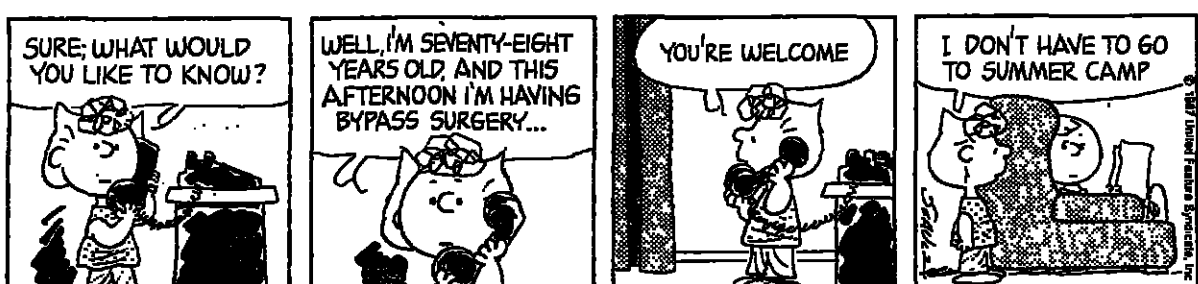
ACROSS

- 1 Luminary
- 5 Resort in 20 A
- 10 Site of the Taj Mahal
- 14 Five: pref.
- 15 Outpouring
- 16 Pakistan's neighbor
- 17 "Star" for one
- 18 More angry
- 19 Split
- 20 Contentious State
- 22 Mar
- 24 Desert denizen
- 25 Insects
- 26 Monetary man
- 27 Mountain leader
- 32 Card game
- 33 Dodged
- 36 Caiman
- 40 City of 20 A
- 42 Teaturnity
- 44 Dog star
- 45 Aptitude
- 47 Knockout count

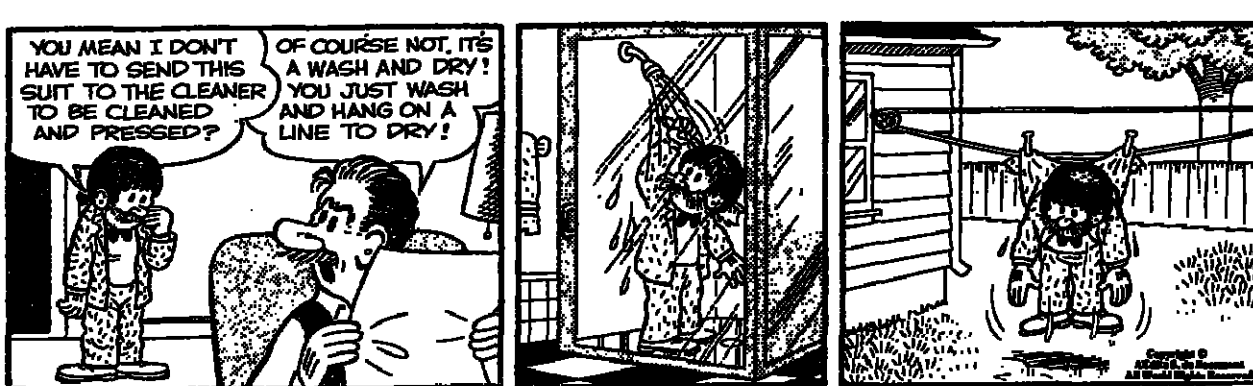
DOWN

- 1 Excavation
- 2 Printing error
- 3 Sand covering
- 4 Onions
- 5 Ledge up
- 6 Eng. chm.
- 7 Temporarily released
- 8 Tours' summer
- 9 Dull person
- 10 Service academy in 20 A
- 11 Outstanding
- 12 Farm
- 13 So. Am. range
- 14 Pile up
- 15 Linguistic unit
- 16 Provincial love
- 17 Song
- 18 Speech from the bleachers
- 19 Contest
- 20 Parters of TV
- 21 Summer film
- 22 Semite
- 23 Scrape of food
- 24 Hot spot
- 25 Telescope part
- 26 Tex. town
- 27 Spot
- 28 Litterer
- 29 Consumed
- 31 Ambusher
- 32 Stoddy
- 33 Psalmist
- 34 expression
- 35 Springs
- 36 Charlotte
- 37 Goose genus
- 38 Pro
- 39 Food fish
- 40 podrida
- 41 Close by
- 42 Terms or Blanc

## Peanuts



## Mutt'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Rough day! Nobody put me on 'hold'! I had to spend the whole 8 hours WORKING!"

## JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TOFLY

BAIDE

GANOLS

LESTUS

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: AT "A" (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PINNY PANIC GOSPEL CABANA

Answer: A person who seldom pays frequently finds that this is what his life style does—"PAYS"



# Threat of major labour unrest grows in S. Africa

**JOHANNESBURG (R)** — A threat of major labour unrest in South Africa loomed Sunday after union officials said about 80,000 metal workers had voted overwhelmingly in favour of a strike.

A more serious showdown is possible in the crucial mining industry, where 200,000 workers are voting to decide whether to come out.

Both disputes centre on wages and work conditions.

Officials of the newly-formed National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (NUMSA) told reporters that about 95 per cent of some 80,000 workers, almost all of them black, had supported a strike in a ballot whose final results are expected Monday.

A decision on what action to take would follow shortly. If a strike is called, about 400 companies will be affected in the metal and allied industries, including car manufacturers.

NUMSA, which was formed earlier this year through the merger of seven unions, says it is the second biggest union in South Africa. But not all of its claimed membership of 130,000 are involved in the dispute.

A walkout by the metal workers would pale in importance compared to a strike in the coal and gold mines, which provide more than half of South Africa's export earnings.

The 200,000 miners taking part in the strike ballot work in 27 gold mines and 18 collieries and make up nearly half the total

Mohlakeng township west of Johannesburg, police added in their daily summary of politically-motivated violence.

In Tembisa township near Johannesburg, the charred body of an unidentified black man was found, the report said.

More than 2,500 people have been killed in the past three years of unrest in South Africa. The level of violence has been reduced after the government imposed a nationwide state of emergency 13 months ago, giving security authorities sweeping powers.

In another development, two men shot dead in a taxi in Swaziland were senior members of the African National Congress (ANC), the South African Press Association (SAPA) said Sunday.

Quoting "a usually well-informed source" in Swaziland, the independent news agency identified them as Paul Dikeledi and Charles Mapunda.

They were gunned down Thursday along with a woman by three white men whose car forced their way off the road as they were travelling from the airport of Mbabane, the Swazi capital.

Police in the mountainous landlocked Kingdom mounted a search for the attackers but reported no arrests.

SAPA said Mr. Dikeledi and the woman, Augusto Tsinini, had gone to the airport to pick up Mr. Mapunda, who was arriving on a flight from Maputo.

## 18 hurt in police shooting

Meanwhile police fired shotguns at a group of stone-throwing black youths, injuring 18 of them, in continuing anti-apartheid protests.

The clash occurred in

## Church people begin protest sit-in in Seoul

**SEOUL (AP)** — Hundreds of Anglican church members, shouting "Down with the military dictatorship," began a sit-down demonstration Sunday, protesting what they called a police violation of their cathedral's sanctuary.

The crowd, estimated at 500, marched out of their church after a two-hour rally and began their protest on a sidewalk leading to one of the capital's main boulevards.

"Punish the police who violated our sanctuary," the protesters shouted as they faced off against several hundred riot police.

It was the first anti-government street demonstration in Seoul since last Thursday, when up to one million people filled the capital's main streets in a massive tribute to a dissident student who died after being hit by a tear-gas canister during a protest last month.

The rally and march Sunday were called to protest a police chase into the Seoul Anglican Cathedral on Friday to arrest 300 people taking refuge there.

Police firing tear-gas assaulted the bishop's residence inside the cathedral and arrested 26 people, church officials said.

The police assault prompted 22 church clergymen to begin an indefinite hunger strike Saturday, demanding that the government officially apologise for the incident.

About a dozen more priests in the countryside were to join in the hunger strike late Sunday, the church officials said.

## Waldheim rules out resigning

**VIENNA (AP)** — President Kurt Waldheim has said in an interview published he has no reason to resign, and called a clear conscience the "best protection" against allegations that he hid a Nazi past.

"I did not expect the controversy surrounding me to continue," Dr. Waldheim told the Austrian daily Kurier. The interview was published in an early edition of the Sunday paper.

Accusations surfaced during last year's presidential campaign that he was involved in Nazi atrocities while serving in the German army in the Balkans in World War II.

The controversy surrounding

## Panama violence abates

**PANAMA CITY (R)** — Government troops kept close watch on the streets Saturday as a tense calm followed two days of protests calling for the ouster of Panama's military chief General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Spot checks were carried out along several of Panama's main thoroughfares after Friday's violent clashes, the worst between riot police and demonstrators in a month.

At one intersection, a senior military officer told reporters that troops were looking for "subversives," a word which in recent weeks has become synonymous with opposition leaders and anti-government protesters.

Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Alexander, a close Noriega aide, spoke from his jeep in the heart of Panama's international banking centre where he surveyed troops in combat gear as they halted passing motorists to check driver's licences and search cars.

Col. Alexander said about 300 people were detained Friday when police moved in to crush a non-violent protest and that most had been released after questioning. Military officials had said the number was about 100.

At least 10 people, including an American reporter and local television cameraman, were injured in the clashes.

Among those detained were seven Americans, whose status U.S. embassy officials were seeking to determine.

The street campaign began last month after Gen. Noriega's former second-in-command, Colonel Roberto Diaz Herrera, accused him of corruption, electoral fraud and murder.

Col. North had drafted the so-called "diversion memo" in which he discussed the plans to use \$12 million in profits from the clandestine U.S. arms sales to Iran to help the Contras.

Col. North has told the congressional committees that he wrote five such memos, intended for Adm. Poindexter to forward for Mr. Reagan's review but Col. North said he did not know if Mr. Reagan ever saw them.

Col. North testified he shredded all but the April document that investigators found.

In June 1986, Congress passed legislation to resume contra aid, voting \$100 million in military and non-lethal assistance. But that time, a private supply network, organised by Col. North, had for many months been arming the rebels with help from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and funding from the Iran arms sales profits, participants and documents have shown.

The extent of Mr. Reagan's knowledge about that operation is unclear, although Col. North told congressional investigators that he assumed he was working with Mr. Reagan's full authorisation and that the prepared memorandum explaining his plans for the president's review.

But Adm. Poindexter wrote that he told Mr. Reagan he did not think that situation could apply in the case of the Contras because they were a rebel movement, not a government.

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Col. North has told the congressional committees that he wrote five such memos, intended for Adm. Poindexter to forward for Mr. Reagan's review but Col. North said he did not know if Mr. Reagan ever saw them.

Col. North testified he shredded all but the April document that investigators found.

In June 1986, Congress passed legislation to resume contra aid, voting \$100 million in military and non-lethal assistance. But that time, a private supply network, organised by Col. North, had for many months been arming the rebels with help from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and funding from the Iran arms sales profits, participants and documents have shown.

The extent of Mr. Reagan's knowledge about that operation is unclear, although Col. North told congressional investigators that he assumed he was working with Mr. Reagan's full authorisation and that the prepared memorandum explaining his plans for the president's review.

But Adm. Poindexter wrote that he told Mr. Reagan he did not think that situation could apply in the case of the Contras because they were a rebel movement, not a government.

The month before Adm. Poindexter wrote that memo, Col. North had drafted the so-called "diversion memo" in which he discussed the plans to use \$12 million in profits from the clandestine U.S. arms sales to Iran to help the Contras.

## Marcos: No invasion without American approval

**HONOLULU (AP)** — Deposed Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, seeking to explain secret tape recordings of a planned invasion of his homeland, says he would never initiate such a military action without the consent of the United States.

On the tapes, released in the United States last week, Marcos is heard to say he wanted to buy anti-tank weapons, anti-aircraft missiles, mortars, recoilless rifles, infantry arms and enough ammunition for a three-month campaign. Marcos also said on the tapes that Philippine President Corason Aquino would be kidnapped, but not harmed.

"The discussion on the tapes concerning arms and military action was premised on the prediction of the loss of the Philippines to a communist takeover or to a communist coalition ... and that the only hope of restoring freedom and democracy there would be a U.S.-approved invasion, which I would lead," Marcos said in a statement released Saturday night.

"I have always maintained that my place is in the Philippines and that I want to return to my country," Marcos said. "And I have repeatedly stated that I will only do so with the approval of the United States government."

U.S. attorney Richard Hirschfeld and U.S. businessman Robert Chastain released the tapes to the Philippine government and the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs.

Hirschfeld and Chastain told the subcommittee last week that the tapes were recorded at Marcos' house in Honolulu, while they posed as middle-men in an arms deal.

The two men also told the subcommittee Marcos planned to purchase a 10,000-man army at \$500 a head.

"With respect to the tapes, my lawyers and I have no assurance as to their authenticity or completeness," Marcos said in his statement. "No definitive statement can be made until such time as the tapes have been authenticated and their completeness established."

Marcos said it appeared Hirschfeld's actions were part of a scheme to get money from the Philippine government, and to receive favours from the U.S. government for legal problems he faces.

Hirschfeld was charged with criminal contempt last year for allegedly violating a U.S. government order to stop selling stock in a sports management company.

The U.S. State Department has used the tapes and information gathered from Hirschfeld and Chastain to bar Marcos from leaving Oahu, the island where Honolulu is located.

"Mr. Marcos presents a real threat of leaving Hawaii and returning to the Philippines to orchestrate disorder and violence in that country," a U.S. official said Thursday. "We are ensuring he cannot do that."

Marcos said it was "bitterly ironic, incredibly painful and tragic" that he should be "publicly maligned, humiliated and threatened with dire consequences, including arrest," after serving the interests of the United States and "democracy" in the Philippines for 20 years.

Marcos fled the Philippines on Feb. 26, 1986, when Aquino's government came to power.

Marcos' lawyer Rafael Recto said Saturday Marcos had been "framed." He said the tapes had been doctored to discredit the former ruler by making it look as if Marcos was planning a coup.

But Mr. Seymour, in papers filed Thursday, said "the proof at trial will show that all the surrounding facts suggested Deaver engaged in numerous potential violations" of the conflict-of-interest laws.

Mr. Deaver lied, said Mr. Seymour, to protect his ability to make "millions of dollars of income for relatively little work."

Mr. Deaver "knew that truthful testimony would end all chances for the sale of his business ... for millions of dollars, most of which would have gone to him personally — and would directly jeopardise his lucrative income ranging from \$100,000 to \$475,000 per year," Mr. Seymour said.

Mr. Deaver, who originally asked that a special prosecutor be named, has since asked the appellate courts to throw out the case on grounds that the law authorising Mr. Seymour's appointment is unconstitutional.

On July 1, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist refused to delay Mr. Deaver's trial while the

constitutional challenge is pending.

There will be time enough for (Mr. Deaver) to present his constitutional claim to the appellate courts if and when he is convicted," Mr. Rehnquist said.

Trial is expected to last four or five weeks. If convicted on all charges, Mr. Deaver could be sentenced to up to 25 years in prison and fined up to \$34,000.

Mr. Deaver is the first person ever indicted under the Ethics in Government Act. The law was passed in the wake of the Watergate scandal of the 1970s, when numerous aides to then-President Richard Nixon were jailed for organising a break-in at the opposition Democrats' campaign headquarters and trying to cover it up.

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## 11 AIDS carriers identified in Bahrain

**BAHRAIN (R)** — Eleven people, all Bahrainis, have been identified as AIDS carriers since the virus was first detected in the country in February. Health Minister Jawwad Salem Al Arayed said in an interview published Sunday. "We have to live with AIDS — it is a bitter fact of life. But there is no need to panic," he told the Gulf Daily News. Arayed said there were "no AIDS patients, only carriers." They included three drug addicts. Screening for AIDS is now enforced on all drug addicts and blood donors in Bahrain. Arayed said a media campaign to combat the spread of the disease was expected to start within two months and lectures would also be given at schools. "I think our society should know about the dangers of the disease," he said. "But it should not be exaggerated — just be careful and aware."

**Sharif continues to act because he 'needs money'**

**OAXTEPEC, Mexico (AP)** — Actor Omar Sharif, star of the movies "Funny Girl" and "Doctor Zhivago," says he would like to retire from acting but can't because he still needs the money. "I've earned many millions of dollars, but I've spent it all," he told a news conference in this town in Morelos State, about 80 kilometres southwest of Mexico City. "I lived life well. I didn't deprive myself of anything. As I grow older, I realise that private life is more important than passions, women and work. I don't act as frequently as before, because I want to enjoy life with my son and with my grandson."

Sharif is also an expert bridge player. "When you're young, you spend money without worrying, since this work and fame seems to be eternal and you get used to it," he said. "It wasn't until recently that I started to save."

**Remains of World War II deserter reburied in U.S.**

**DETROIT (AP)** — The remains of private Eddie Slovik were laid to rest Saturday next to those of his wife, ending a 42-year effort to bring home the body of the executed soldier. About 45 people, including family, neighbours and strangers, attended the brief Roman Catholic burial rite at a Detroit cemetery. Two of Slovik's three sisters clutched red roses and American flags as they gathered around the steel-gray casket. "I'm glad it's finally over," said Slovik's 70-year-old sister, Margaret Sobolewski. "It's always been on my mind." Slovik was 24 during World War II when he became the only U.S. soldier executed for desertion since the civil war. He was shot by a firing squad on Jan. 31, 1945. The remains, exhumed Wednesday, were buried beside the grave of his wife, Antoinette, according to her last request. She died in 1979 after years of unsuccessful efforts to obtain a presidential pardon for him. Slovik had been buried in France among the graves of 94 other U.S. soldiers, hanged for charges including rape and murder. Slovik was declared a deserter a day after he reported as a replacement in an infantry company during fighting in Europe. He was absent without leave for 43 days, returned to his unit and deserted again, the army said. A Pentagon review said in 1977 there was no convincing evidence he was "unable to control his actions" and declared his execution justified.

**Barbie asked to pay 62 francs and court costs**

**LYON (AP)** — A Lyon court has ordered Klaus Barbie to pay one franc each to 62 civil parties at his trial for crimes against humanity as well as court costs, estimated at more than \$150,000. Barbie, 73, who was Lyon Gestapo chief during World War II, was sentenced to life in prison last week for the deportation and death of hundreds of resistance members. Only 62 of the 149 civil parties at the two-month trial chose to ask for the symbolic franc in damages traditionally awarded in France to victims. Neither Barbie nor defence lawyer Jacques Verges attended the one-hour civil hearing led by Judge Andre Cerdini, who presided over Barbie's trial, which ended early July 4.

## Afghan rebels abandon idea to hold elections among refugees

**ISLAMABAD (R)** — Afghan rebel leaders have shelved plans to hold elections among refugees and the guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed government, according to rebel spokesmen.

A representative of the Hezb-I-Islami (Khalis) party said late last week the issue had caused differences among the fractious seven-party alliance, with five voting to cancel the exercise and two opposing the decision.

Other guerrilla spokesmen said no final decision had been taken, though the proposal had been put on one side for the moment.

"We are not very much in favour of this but it has not been completely rejected," a spokesman for Jamiat-I-Islami said.

The alliance announced in May that it would organise male-only

## Parallel probe looks into links between contra aid and drugs

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — A second congressional committee is quietly tracing the government's network of secret support for the Nicaraguan Contras, focusing on allegations that U.S. officials may have condoned drug smuggling, gunrunning and other crimes to raise money for the rebels.

The low-profile, year-long investigation by the crime subcommittee of the House of Representatives was made public last week, as the panel voted following a debate to subpoena three federal prosecutors in Miami.

The committee wants to question the three federal prosecutors about allegations that the nation's top law enforcement official, Attorney General Edwin Meese, ordered a halt to the investigation of a gunrunning ring.

Mr. Meese has denied published reports that he intervened in the case so as not to endanger an upcoming congressional vote on contra aid last spring.

But that is only "a small portion" of the potentially explosive territory the committee is exploring, Mr. Hughes said.

Mr. Hughes said the subcommittee is looking into the following allegations it has come across in extensive interviews and research:

— A convicted drug smuggler's story that he was offered a deal by prosecutors in return for furnishing some of his ill-gotten gains to the Nicaraguan rebels.

— Evidence that a marijuana-laden C-130 cargo plane was permitted to land at Homestead Air Force Base in southern Florida, with profits from that trip reportedly earmarked for the Contras.

— Allegations that the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) looked the other way on drug dealing by and for the Contras.

The White House has said that some individual Contras may have engaged in drug trafficking but that there was no evidence the rebel leadership supported by the United States was involved.

— Charges that U.S. officials, diplomats and friendly foreign governments allowed crimes to be committed in the Contras' behalf.

Since the opening lead forces you to take care of a diamond loser immediately, win the ace, cash the king of clubs and cross to dummy with the king of trumps. Then discard a diamond on the ace of clubs.

You would like to lead a second trump, but you can't afford that. If you do, the defender who wins the third heart might be able to draw dummy's remaining trump and so stop you ruffing a heart. Therefore, you must tackle hearts next. How do you go about it?

If you cash the king-ace of hearts and give up a heart, as the cards lie West will win, cash a diamond and then lead a fourth heart to promote his partner's trump to the setting trick—down one.

Correct is to duck a heart. Now you are in control. As long as hearts are 3-3, or if the player with three trumps also has four hearts, you are safe. Win any return, cash the ace of trumps and the king-ace of hearts. As the cards lie, you can ruff your fourth heart as West follows suit. Note that this line also works if East has three trumps and two, three or four hearts.

Before you can solve a problem, you must be aware that it exists. Simply counting your losers on this hand will highlight where the danger lies.

After a routine auction South becomes declarer at four spades. West leads the king of diamonds. Plan the play.

You are looking at one trump loser (if you have to lose more than one, you probably won't make your contract), two diamonds and two hearts. One diamond loser can go

away on the ace of clubs, so to make your contract you need to salvage one heart loser. You can accomplish that either if the suit breaks 3-3 or if you can ruff one in dummy.

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